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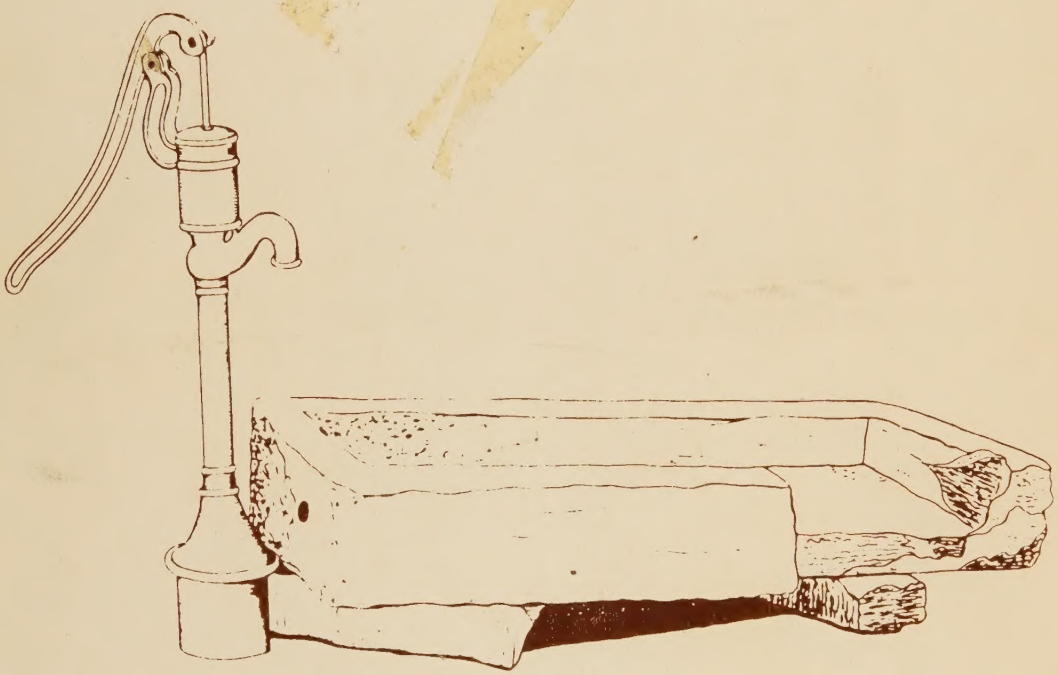

1833-1983

by

Steven J. Miller

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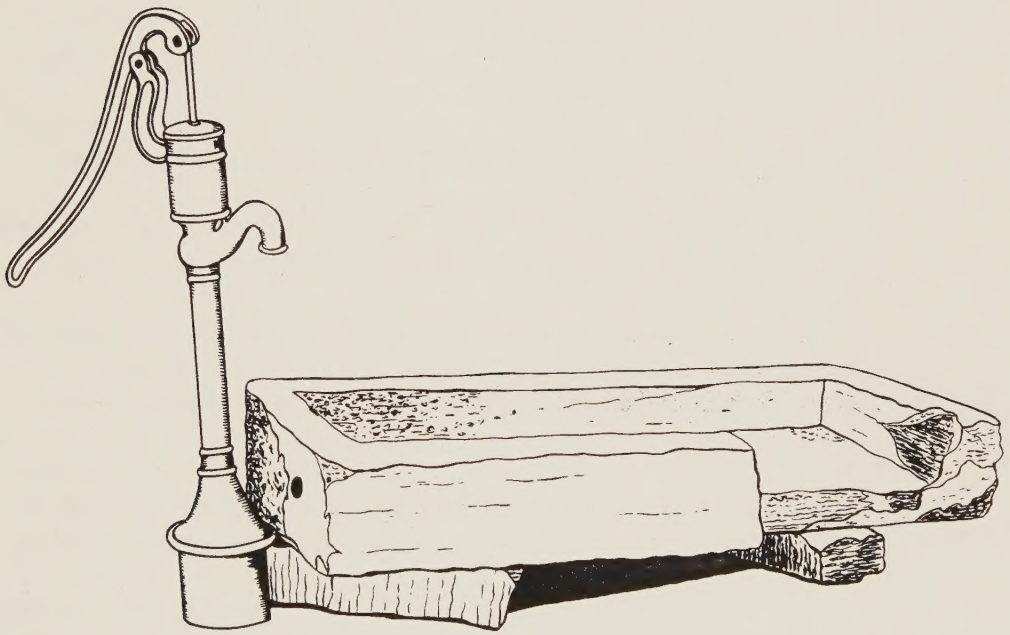

compiled for Palestine
Sesqui-Centennial
1833-1983

by Steven J. Miller

THE PALESTINE BOOK

HISTORY OF LIBERTY (GERMAN) TOWNSHIP
DARKE COUNTY OHIO

WRITTEN PERMISSION

FOR REPRINTING

GIVEN TO

THE DARKE COUNTY

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

BY

STEVEN J. MILLER

MARCH 17, 2000

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Foreword

Work on this book began three years ago to have a recorded history of our community available in time for Palestine's Sesqui-Centennial. The book is the result of the efforts and contributions of many individuals in our neighborhoods. The pictures, records, ledgers, diaries, stories, and information shared by all have been compiled with interviews, additional research, and written histories to form *The Palestine Book*.

The project was intended to be a thorough study of our communities' histories, but no one book covering a hundred-fifty year span can claim to be totally complete or accurate. Hopefully, the reader will forgive any errors, and understand they were not made by a professional writer, but by just a local country boy with an avid interest in history. Efforts were made to identify the people in the pictures, but many are included without successful identifications. Perhaps they will be identified by Palestine's Bicentennial.

Palestine, Nashville, Longtown, Clark's Station, Baker, Glen Karn, and the neighboring farmlands are rich in history, and history is the one common bond all of us who live in, or used to live in, the community share. It is my hope that the book will provide enjoyment and stimulate interest; and that, perhaps, we can all appreciate our local heritage and community neighbors a little more.

Steven J. Miller

Chapter I

Early Settlement

Following the War of 1812, ancestral pioneers settled in the German township area. At this time, many of the earlier settlers - native American Indians were still present. The Earlier mound-builders lived here possibly into the 1600's. They were followed by the more recent tribes migrating from the eastern United States where colonial Indian wars and treaties forced them west into the Northwest Territory. These later Indians lived in the area into the early 1800's, overlapping the period of early pioneer settlement. Some stories have been passed down to us by older generations now gone, of when these Indians coexisted with the early pioneers.

Land of the Sweet Waters

Miss Adavier (Wilcox) Ross gives this story of an Indian camp on the hill by the creek on Del Teaford's (old Dixon place), that occurred to her great-grandmother - Mrs. David Ketring. In those days a trail went from this village past David Ketring's cabin to another Indian village on the West Branch. One day an Indian mother and papoose came to the house, where the barn now is. Malinda and Elizabeth peeked out from behind their mother's long dress. The papoose was sick so Grandma Ketring took flour, milk and sugar, and made pap soup, then took some cheese cloth to make a sugar tit, and fed the baby. The baby got better and the story has been passed along. Soon after this the Indians had to leave.

Kenny Ketring adds that the Indians would borrow shovels from "Big John" Ketring to bury their dead in a nearby gravel bank.

Herman Wagner, fifth generation from John Waggoner, tells that a few Indian families lived on the old Waggoner homestead. This farm now owned by Keith Bussey was in the Waggoner family for one hundred-fifty years. There was a boulder on a hill near the Waggoner homestead, where the Indians ground their corn, and an Indian path that went down from there to the creek. This path existed up into very recent years.

About 1862, one Indian returned to the area and spoke to David Ross. The Indian had come back to see the "land of sweet waters" that his fathers had spoken of. Inquiring to find out what stream the Indian talked of, it was learned that the Indian referred to the sweet water that could be tapped from the maple trees in the area. The Indians had never found a better place in their migrations than this area to tap the trees.

Tom Ross passes along that at the north edge of Fred Clark's was an Indian jerking pit where they would smoke meat. Also David Ross recalled, as a little boy, seeing Indian lodge poles still on the farm they bought in 1852. There was an old sycamore tree on the Ross farm near a spring. The Indians used to hide in the hollow sycamore to shoot deer. Also many Indian trails existed in the area, and slashes for a possible Indian trail were on a tree on the south end of the Keith Stephens farm.

Jesse Woods was taking a wagon and horse from Palestine toward Hollansburg, he turned south at Tampico and came upon an Indian sitting on the rail fence, near the woods on a little hill. Woods stopped to talk and found that the Indian had come back to the area to see his home place one more time. He probably lived near where some big springs used to be in the area.

Indian Relics & Archaeology

Many township residents enjoy collecting Indian arrowheads and artifacts. Two interested men compiled and published information on such collections: Robert M. Dalrymple in his 1893 "Archaeology of Darke County" newspaper articles, and Fraser E. Wilson in his 1914 *History of Darke County.*

"Robert M. Dalrymple came to western Ohio from New Jersey when a young man - probably in the early 'eighties'. Apparently his destiny was Missouri but he got off a freight train at Weavers' Station on the Penn. R.R. and stopped at the home of George Weaver, a farmer, by whom he was employed for a while, and later by Jonathon Wagner, Ivan Parent and other farmers in neighboring sections of German (now Liberty) and Neave townships, finally settling in Bakers' Store where he learned the trade of making wagons under Irvin Slick. While here he also practiced taxidermy and took great interest in the study of archaeology and geology, and related studies and spent much time in leisurely exploring old Indian campsites, and in gathering fossils and Indian relics. In 1893 and thereabouts he contributed some forty articles to the Greenville weekly Journal, mostly on the campsites located on the upper branch streams in the above

townships and on the flint and stone implements found in this neighborhood. Mr. Dalrymple was a good student, a careful and conscientious observer and made good use of the knowledge acquired by constant reading and study in his later years, in Ohio. He never married and died following a paralytic stroke. His remains are buried in the West Zion cemetery, near Baker's Store." (Garst Museum notes)

Information relevant to the Palestine area is used here from both Dalrymple's columns and pages 35-41 of Wilson's *History of Darke County.*

Indian Campsites and Villages - Campsites occur at many places within the county as evidenced by the large number of spawls of chert and flint and the broken and unfinished stone implements turned up by the plow. They are usually located near running springs. The upper valleys of Mud Creek, West Branch and Crout creek were inhabited by the early Americans who have left distinct traces of their early residence along these branch streams. Sections thirteen, fourteen, twenty-three and twenty-four in German township, near the head of West Branch, have been especially prolific in relics of the stone age. Perhaps the largest camp site in Darke county was situated on the Garst farm, in section thirteen, and on the Ross farm adjoining it on the south, in section twenty-four. This site covers several acres and is on a gravel hill which terminates in a steep bank on the north and west sides. It follows the course of the stream and made a level, elevated and ideal camping place. A large number of hammers, axes, spear and arrowheads have been found here and flint chips are plentiful. On the Metzcar farm just south of the Ross place, a pile of burned bricks were found by the first white settlers, who came here in 1817. These bricks were larger than the standard size and the upper layer was somewhat disintegrated and covered with considerable leaf mold, indicating that many years had elapsed since they had been placed in position. Perhaps they had been burned on the spot to form the foundation of a Jesuit missionary station, late in the seventeenth or early in the eighteenth century; or they might have supported the cabin of an early French trader who established himself here in a settlement of friendly Indians. Just east of the Metzcar farm, on the Wagner farm Mr. Dalrymple explored a camp site covering about seven acres. Near the head of Crout creek, in sections three, ten and fifteen of German township, and in sections thirty-three, thirty-four and thirty-five of Washington township, numerous evidences of early occupancy have been found. Skeletons, beads and various implements were found in a gravel cairn on the Norman Teaford farm. The decayed remains of numerous bark wigwams were encountered on the Ross farm, in the southeast corner of section nine, German township, by the early settlers. On the Bickel and Neff farms, near the mouth of Crout creek, remains of an encampment were found, besides numerous stone implements. In fact, there seems to have been a string of villages along the entire course of this creek and the pioneers saw Indians in this locality as late as 1831 or 1832, when the upper Miami valley tribes emigrated beyond the Mississippi river. On the Coapstick farm, just south of Nashville, a sugar camp had apparently been operated by the Indians as the trees showed marks made in tapping when examined by the pioneers. Many stone hammers were found near this place, indicating that it had been a camp site. The Young mound and the gravel cairns on the Cable farm, above mentioned, were in this neighborhood.

"Along the east side of Mud creek prairie, between Greenville, Fort Jefferson, several camp sites have been discovered. On the Benj. Kerst farm and on the Lamb farm in section fifteen, Neave township, adjoining some fine springs and overlooking the prairie, numerous unfinished implements and large quantities of spawls have been found, indicating long occupancy by the natives.

"The site of the city of Greenville itself was probably one of the largest and most popular camping grounds in the county on account of its extensive elevated grounds,

Knives

Celts

overlooking the Mud creek prairie and the valley of Greenville creek. It is known that Indian trails radiated from this site in various directions.

"No doubt villages were located on the upper waters of the Whitewater in Harrison township and in various parts of the county, as evidenced by the large number of stone relics which have been picked up from time to time. The sites mentioned have been most carefully explored and serve to indicate what further careful investigations may reveal. It has been noticed that village sites have almost invariably been found near springs, and on the ridges or bluffs bordering streams or prairies. They were located here, no doubt, for convenience, for accessibility and also on account of the im-

passable and unsanitary condition of the extensive swamps which characterized primitive Darke County." (Fraser E. Wilson, 1914 *History of Darke County)*

"These homes of the ancients were usually located on high ground; a favorite place seemed to have been on the end of the ancient sand bars or gravel ridges, as they are commonly called, where the ridges end abruptly, forming a steep or rapid decline overlooking an expanse of low ground. These locations were chosen doubtless for a double purpose. When Darke County was opened up for settlement it was found to be very wet and swampy, quite different from the condition of the country at the present day. It must have been much worse in former ages, the ridges formed a high and dry place to make a permanent or temporary camp out of reach of overflows and standing water. Then again such localities afforded some protection against surprise by an enemy seeking to creep up to the camp.

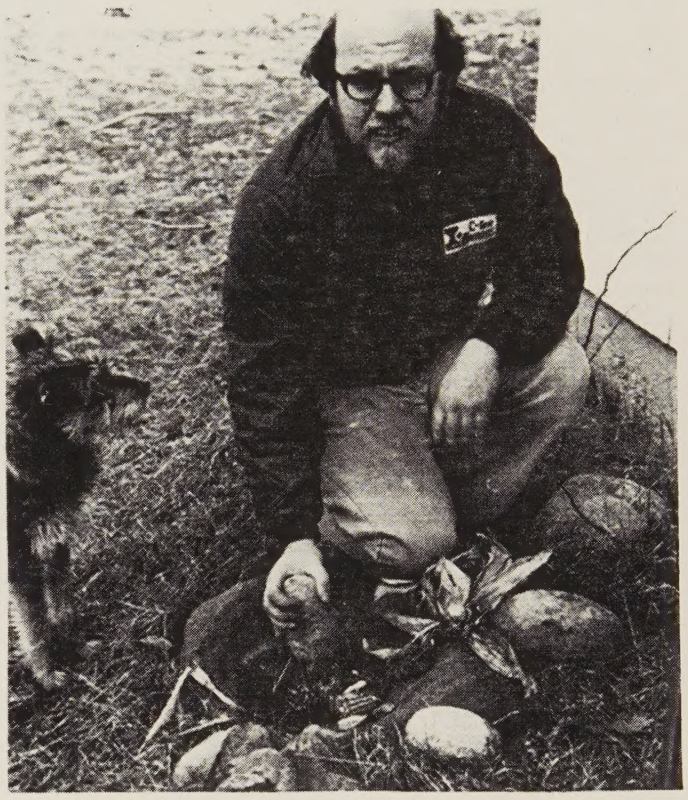
"South of Baker Store, on the farm of F.J. Wagner, and extending over the line and taking up a part of a field on the farm of Mrs. John sink was once a camp, more of an ordinary camp than workshop, but few chips have been found; celts, spear and arrow heads mostly have been picked up; a few rods away from the centre a discoidal was found. This camp was situated on a little more level ground than is usually the case; there are two slight ridges on the spot where most of the relics were found; a chip of very beautiful stone resembling hornstone and agate was found there, no native stones like it have been found in the vicinity. This camp covered about seven acres, including the ridges; two ponds are on the site; these depressions might have been excavated by the occupants of the camp, but it simply a probability, they may be natural depressions.

On the farm owned by Ben Kerst in Neave Township is another camp. A part of the site is occupied by a school house; this is also on high ground. The most important thing in connection with this camp is that there are two natural springs on the spot, which doubtless were there when the site was selected for a camp. This camp commands a view of a narrow prairie. North of the last described camp is the site of another; the centre is slightly raised, the surroundings are level, a number of discs of slatestone and rough discoidal, an unusual number of the latter have been found; a quantity of chips lie scattered over the spot; a spring is close by this ancient camp site also.

"Still north about one-half mile are numerous other camp sites, some near natural water basins, others quite a distance from water. On one spot a few discoidals have been found; another site is situated on a high ridge terminating at a pond; a quantity of chips and arrow heads is all that have been found on this site which is situated on the farm of Mrs. Baker.

"On the Bowsman farm, east of the Store, was either a camp or a battlefield; we have not visited the spot, but was shown relics picked up from it. It is on low ground, spears and knives of unusual size are found on the site, which was most likely an ancient battlefield.

"Numerous camp sites are to be found north of Palestine and all around the village named, some of more than usual interest; also around about New Madison and Ft. Jefferson. Perhaps the largest in the county is situated on the Garst farm east of Palestine. This site is mainly on the Parent farm and extends and terminates on the Ross farm south; the north and west sides end in steep banks following the course of the West Branch creek; the top is nearly level, furnishing an admirable place to camp. At the west end of the grounds is a circular depression which looks very much as if it had been caused by other than natural means; it is almost perfectly true, must be about thirty feet across and four feet deep. In digging in the bottom traces of charcoal have been found. A large number of hammers and axes besides spear and arrow heads have been found on the site; chips are plenty. The site covers several acres and is on a gravel hill. On the north side of the creek in the orchard at the east end, and on a slight knoll, and within a spot a few yards square was found a number of double pointed flints. Numerous other places might be mentioned but we think that a sufficient number of examples have been given to make the matter clear, and to stimulate those interested to further research along this line." (Robert M. Dalrymple, 1893 *Archaelogy of Darke County)*



Stan Ross demonstrates Indian grinding stones.

Workshops - "Mention is made of an ancient camp site and workshop on the farm of Robert Downing, in section nine, Harrison township, near the head of West Branch. Here, it seems, a specialty was made of manufacturing stone axes, large numbers of which have been found in a partly finished condition. At this place an immense quantity of spawls and broken stone is encountered when turning up the soil, and a fine spring is near at hand.

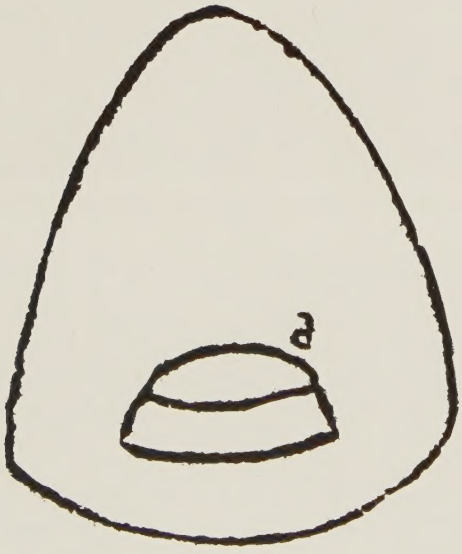
"In the opinion of Mr. Young the finding of such a large number of one kind of implement on a definite site would tend to indicate that the artist who located his workshop there was a specialist in the shaping and manufacturing of that particular tool or weapon, thereby becoming an expert in his line. The Indians had small, portable stone mortars in which to pulverize and mix the pigments for decorating their

bodies and others for grinding grain. They also used large stationary boulders for the latter purpose. One of these formerly stood on the site of Bunker Hill, formerly mentioned. This old stone mill has been badly defaced but is still exhibited by Mr. O'Brien. (now at Garst Museum). A skeleton was exhumed in the sand pit near this stone, which seems to have been located along an old trail leading diagonally across the prairie and joining the main trail near Oakwood. Another stone mill formerly stood near Beech Grove, and a third on the Jenkinson farm south of Fort Jefferson." (Fraser E. Wilson, 1914 *History of Darke County*)

Ceremonial mounds - "These are generally small and isolated, never more than one at a place; they are from any height up to about twenty feet or so, and are often situated near burial sites or ancient cemeteries. It is very likely that there were many of these mounds in Darke County. Some years ago Mr. Young opened a mound on his farm, situated west of Nashville; this mound was not very high at the time, but had in all probability before the action of the elements and the cultivation around it had worn away, reached to the average heighth of such mounds. There were no pipes found in it, only a few spears, arrows, slate implements, etc.

"About a half mile from this mound Mr. Young found the evidence of another one, which had entirely disappeared, leaving a hard circular spot, which archaeologists have terminated the altar. The plow, harrow, and other farm implements had scattered the relics in different directions from the spot, and many of the slate relics had been found in a broken condition, Spear and arrow heads were quite numerous.

"Close to the village of New Madison there was at one time one of these altar or ceremonial mounds. At the time the farm was first settled upon and for some time after, the mound was about twenty feet high and round at the base; just what the diameter or circumference was we have not been informed. A gentleman now deceased, stated to us some years ago, that when he was a boy he had dug down into this mound in the center, which was then a few feet above the surrounding land, and had dug a hole about the size of a well and came to a level floor-like place, composed of hard baked clay; ashes were dug through before reaching this altar top. On the level surface were found bone needles, ivory beads, slate relics, etc., with traces of iron rust. We had the pleasure of viewing the relics taken from this mound. The enterprise was abandoned before the altar was thoroughly investigated; the mound doubtless contains other relics. This mound is now level with the surface, the plow turning over ashes every time it goes over the spot. It is situated close to an ancient burial ground and at the extemitry of a ridge overlooking a quite large area of prairie land. (Robert M. Dalrymple, 1893 *"Archaelogy of Darke County")*



This cut represents the general form of an altar or ceremonial mound; "a" indicates the altar, which is elevated slightly above the general surface; the altar at the base, is surrounded with a ditch probably eight or ten inches deep.

Mica and Shells - "It is possible that the ancient Americans traded with one another or with other tribes from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans and as far north and south as their means of travel would permit. As a proof of this statement we have the shells found in German Township in a mound, the shells are found only on the Pacific Coast, also the plates of mica found in a grave on the farm of Jesse Woods in the same township. The mica is found in quantities of that size, in North Carolina, and then again, some of the relics found in this locality are made of such material as is not found in a native state in this vicinity, but is brought from some distant point.

"In a collection of relics of the stone age, in German Twp., we found a mould, supposed to be used for a coin mould for either clay or some metal. The gentleman who purchased the relic originally is now deceased and so we are unable to trace where it came from, which leaves in doubt its genuineness. This mould is one half, or supposed to be, of the complete relic. The general outline of the stone is irregular, just as nature formed it; the face is dressed smooth and level; three holes are drilled through to hold the halves together, pins going through the holes to keep the two halves in place, life an iron moulder's flask.

"This half which is preserved has a hole about 1½ inches in diameter, bored down in the middle to a depth of about half an inch, and is the mould proper. There is a crease around the bottom which would make a slight rim around the coin after it has been cast. Creases across the face would make the coin have raised lines running from the rim to the centre. Thus the coin would have a rim and the face laid off in panels tapering to the centre with raised lines dividing the face into the panel shape." (Dalrymple)

Ancient Cemeteries or Burial Sites - "At Bishop's crossing near Greenville, in building the pikes, several graves, either Indian or Mound Builder, were discovered. With the bones were found pipes of stone, spear heads and other relics. An old gentleman who had helped to do the work, said that the graves were quite numerous, and about all of them contained relics.

It is likely that some of these graves were Indians. It was the custom in this locality when the Indians buried their dead, if a chief, to kill his pony and bury it with him besides the implements used by him while alive, then build a pen of logs around the small mound to keep out wild animals which might dig up the remains if not protected in this manner. A chief by the name of "Blue Jacket" was buried in Greenville Township in the manner described. We are not able to tell

just the exact difference between a Mound Builder's and an Indian's grave, but if the bones of a pony are found with the human skeleton it would be safe to call it an Indian's grave." (Dalrymple)

"On (Joseph) Bryson farm was located the Indian village of Prophetstown, which also included the adjoining farms, and the council house was situated where Mr. Bryson's orchard is now planted.

"The burying ground was on the Bishop farm, though there were internments on the Bryson farm. Blue Jacket, a Shawnee chieftain, was buried on a little knoll near where the council house stood, and along the hillside Indian bones were frequently found." (Source: 1900 *Biography of Darke Co.*, pg. 329.)

"There is a gavel hill in the prairie on the farm of Geo. Reigle, near Ft. Jefferson, in which a single skeleton was found but no relics or other bones.

"Near Clark's Station is an ancient grave yard in a gravel ridge also. Gravel is hauled out on the road every year and as it is caved skeletons are often unearthed which were buried in a standing position.

"The locality in and around Nashville, German Township, furnishes some interesting information. One or two mounds have been opened yielding a lot of relics, skeletons, etc., two large shells native of the Pacific coast were taken from one of the mounds. The inside had been cut out of them leaving a large cavity capable of holding about one gallon making a very valuable addition to the 'kitchen furniture' of the ancient people of the stone age.

Plan of the ancient cemetery near New Madison, O. (2) The location of the altar mound previously described, which is situated at the north end of the gravel ridge overlooking a valley like formation. (3) The gravel bank or site of the ancient cemetery in which skeletons are found. The general outlines of the ridge are described by the line extending from the cemetery to around the mound.

"Northwest of New Madison, close to the mound described in last article, is another of the ancient cemeteries, situated close to the mound on the same ridge at the southern end; the mound is situated at the north end. As we stated in a former article the last rites were most likely performed at the altar mound and the dead then carried to where they are found. Several skeletons have been found at this place, but they soon crumble on exposure to the air. If they could be preserved, it would be a decided advantage to the archaelogist as well as other scientists.

"One of the most interesting burial spots was discovered on the farm of Jesse Woods in German Township. In digging the cellar under the house where he lives, Mr. Woods discovered a skeleton in a sitting posture; it was covered with places of mica, and was the central figure in a group of other skeletons arranged in a circle around it. The skeletons in the circle were lying at full length. Mr. Woods regrets very much that he did not preserve the mica as they were the only relics found in the grave. This grave we consider the most interesting yet discovered in Darke County, but many more graves of the ancient Americans may yet be found in the county as it becomes more thickly settled.

"Near the West Branch Church in Neave Twp., a skeleton was dug out in the caving walls of a gravel pit. The body had been buried in a sitting position. N.W. of Fort Jefferson about half a mile was found a skeleton buried in a sitting position - knees drawn up. In the grave was a burned clay pipe-bowl and stem in one piece-bowl was bluted inside. An old settler in the vicinity said that he had made many a pipe just like it. A stone ax was also in the grave. (Nov. 1807, Old settler Sam McCabe).

"In selecting a site for burial we have found in nearly every instance the ancient savage generally made use of an elevated spot of ground, mostly a natural ridge, about the same location as for a camp or village. Some are buried a large number in one place - other instances just a single grave." (Dalrymple)

Ridged Slates - "There has been found in this locality relics of stone that it would be simply impossible to form any idea of their use, or even to give them a suitable name. Among this class of implements is the ridged slate stones. These seem to be in a finished state and must have been polished once as they are generally found pitted all over like relics that have been once polished and the surface had been scaled off leaving the under face full of pits.

"The first that we notice is a tablet shape relic, an oblong square. A fine specimen was found on the farm of E.B. Hollinger in German Township. It is in an almost perfect condition, with the exception of a corner being broken off. The relic is made of a gray rock and has the appearance of having been polished once, leaving the surface full of small round indentations, like the polished relics taken from mounds. This specimen is about four inches wide and about seven or eight inches long, and about one inch thick. It has been cut down to the size, having a ridge about one half inch thick in relief across the centre on both sides exactly opposite." (Dalrymple)

Plain Dressed - "One fine specimen was found on a farm in German Township, that is worthy of mention. It is made of a stone resembling soapstone, and glistens like a fine grain mica schist. It is nearly six inches long by two wide, and about 3/8 of an inch thick. It is very smoothly made and slightly curved or bent flatwise. There are no marks or holes just a plain, flat, dressed tablet of no known or supposed use." (Dalrymple)

Slate Disks - "Plain slate disks are quite common, found frequently in German and Neave townships, and in the greatest abundance on the old camp sites. The general shape is circular, ranging from 2½ to about 4 inches in diameter,

and from less than ¼ to about ½ inch thick. Some have been found that are oval, others bell shape, and again a few that were semi-circular at both ends, with the sides concave. They are made of blue slate flaked off until of the desired thickness and the edges neatly broken to the right shape. From some partly finished specimens found, it appears that the outlines are formed as fast as the work of reducing the thickness progresses. We have no idea of the use of these peculiar implements; if they were all half circular, circular or oval they could have been used as scrapers; but other shapes are found which would upset that idea. They are rough and more or less neatly broken to the shape with no other finish, and plain with no holes." (Dalrymple)

Discoidals - "These relics look as if they had been made more for an ornament than any useful purpose. They are often made with an extra finish, especially those of a fine grained black mineral. The shape is oval and some are round or circular, flattened, and through the centre of the flattened sides is bored a hole about ¼ inch in diameter. Two specimens of discoidals were found on an Indian camp site on the Kerst farm in German Township; one of them is oval and made of the black variety of mineral; the other is more circular in form and made of a light colored grained stone; both have the hole bored through the centre, which are less than ¼ inch in diameter. The oval specimen is about two inches greater in diameter. The circular discoidal is a little less than two inches. In the southern part of German Township a discoidal relic was found, slightly oval in shape, about 2½ inches in diameter and nearly one inch thick, made of a light colored close grain rock. Across one side or face two lines are cut, running at right angles, crossing each other at the hole. Several other speciments have been found but a description of these serves to give an idea of what they are, but the real use of such relics is not known; they are rather too heavy for charms or any other kind of neck ornaments. If they had been made perfectly circular they could have been used to roll on the ground in playing games, which idea has been suggested by some collectors, but that theory is out of the question." (Dalrymple)

Hammer Discoidal - "A peculiar form of discoidal was found in Neave Township which we will call a pick or hammer discoidal. It is about 2½ inches wide and 3 long, and wedge shape, the thick end made to fit in the hand; in the centre of both flat surfaces and opposite each other are slight depressions, so that when held in the hand the thick end rests in the hollow of the hand, the thumb extending down on one side, and thus securely held, the thick end so rounded and made smooth enough as to not bruise the hand while pounding with it. The thin end is rounded like an ax and brought down to a blunt edge, which shows some marks of having been pounded on some hard substance. It is very plain what this was used for, although it is not possible that all discoidals were used in that way." (Dalrymple)

Hammers - "In the large camp site on the Parent farm in German Township, hammers of different shapes have been picked up; one being of a very peculiar shape. It is rather larger than the usual form and flat; the general shape is like an axe with an oblong oval face to the pole which has a smooth and level face; the other end is rounded as if formed for a dull pick. The groove is placed near the pole or square faced end. It was evidently made for a special tool and to

Hammers

serve for the purpose of an ordinary hammer and also for a kind of small pick. The whole length is about 3½ inches and is nearly as broad as long, and about one inch thick. The stone is composed of quartzite or some mineral of very much the same composition and is hard and tough enough to stand some severe blows.

"The largest stone hammer that has been found in Darke County, to our knowledge, was picked up on Chas. Kester's farm in German Township. This implement is of no particular shape, looks more like a ball than anything else. It is not very true, but is smooth, and has a slight groove around the middle, weighs 2½ lbs. and is made of quartzite or porpuory. It is probable it may have been used as a weight or sinker.

"There is another form of stone implement that may be classed with the hammers, although it may not have been made for the purpose of pounding with. It is a flat stone, dressed true to shape; about three inches in diameter, and from ½ to ¾ inches thick. all around the outer circumference is cut a deep groove, taking up nearly the whole face of the rim. The whole relic is nicely finished and smooth, and generally true. Only two, as far as we know, have been owned by collectors in this county; one was in possession of Harry Wilson of Nashville, and the other owned at one time by Calvin Young of the same place. They are quite rare. Both of these relics are made of the same kind of material - a light colored quartzite or sandstone." (Dalrymple)

Clubs

Clubs - "But we have left to us a club made of stone, which is the shape of a tapering pestle; if not examined very close they might be taken for a pestle. It is our opinion that they are not pestles; but were made for clubs; as there seems to be no place on the thick end that is worn to any extent as the pestles usually are, which have been rubbed either in a mortar in grinding paint or on a block of wood or stone when grinding grain, etc. These clubs are about 10 inches long, 2½ inches in diameter at the large end and tapering small enough to make an easy grasp around it at the small end. The material is slate, banded and other varieties, and made very rough as a general thing; that is, the outline is true but no particular finish is done on them. Several specimens were found on the farm of John Wagner in German Township; we have failed to find any in other localities.

On this same farm there are several old camp sites, one spot is known to have been the camp of Indians, who have not disappeared much over 60 years ago." (Dalrymple)

Cooking Utensils, Pottery, Etc. - "Mention is made of two large shells found in a gravel bank near Nashville, German Township. These shells are about one foot in diameter, probably belonging to the Helicidae family and are peculiar to the lower California coast. The inside was cut out and made a commodious vessel for carrying liquids, and owing to their rarity, it is probable they were made use of on state occasions, as the ancient and modern savages are and have been just as particular in their observances of red tape ceremony, as the most aristocratic nation of the present time; hence the stone emblems, scepters, etc. of the Mound Builders." (Dalrymple)

Gorgets - "Gorgets is the name given, by general consent, to finely made kinds of stone relics of the forms illustrated in this article. Of what use was made of them it is impossible to say; we leave this to the imaginative genius of the reader and general student of archaeology. They must have been made for some purpose, either useful or as an ornament. We have given cuts of four forms, and if we are not mistaken, all four have been found in this vicinity (around Baker Store).

Gorgets

"The one with convex sides is in the author's cabinet; it was found near Palestine, and is about seven inches long, very nicely made; the material is blue banded slate; with two holes. It is an unusual large specimen and almost perfect, with the exception of a few slight nicks. The holes are both of the same size, as is the case with about all of the gorgets. This form seems to be the most common that has been found in this locality. All forms of gorgets are getting quite rare, but very few are now found here and such as are picked up are in a bad shape - broken, nicked and disfigured generally.

"The one with concave sides, shown in the cut, is not as common as the first one described; this form has two holes also, and is often very highly finished, being much smaller then the convex form. The ends are generally convex. They are often made of a fine grained black stone. The most common material is slate, the banded variety predominating. Mr. Isaac Ross of German Twp. has a very fine specimen of this form of gorget; we believe it was found near Hollansburgh, and is made of black stone, the outline shape being symmetrically true." (Dalrymple)

Arrowheads - "All of the different forms of arrow and spear heads described have been found in Darke County. The finest specimens are not often found on the camp sites, generally scattered singly all over the county; on battle grounds they are sometimes numerous. It is reasonable to suppose that they were well taken care of and used until broken or lost." (Dalrymple)

Unfinished Relics - Blocks, Etc. - "On the Iven Parent farm in German Township we once found about a peck of these blocks which had been buried only about six or eight inches deep, as the plow turned them out. These pieces were all of the same kind and color of chert, being a light lead color, and nearly all of the same size, about one and a half to two inches wide, by two to three inches long. It may have been, and it looks that way, that they were broken to get the 'fracture' or in other words they were broken in such a manner that the 'natural grain' will run lengthwise; however, this is just a conjecture. Large numbers of these blocks are to be found on the old camp sites in various states of development." (Dalrymple)

Drills - "There was one in a collection in German Township some years ago made of black chert which is about four and a half inches, which is the longest that we have noticed in any collection in Darke County. A very fine and perfect drill, the size and description of the one first mentioned was found by Herschel Wagner in German Township, it is perfect and a very fine drill." (Dalrymple)

Drills

Axes - "About all of the largest axes we have noticed in collection in the county, are broad patterns. A very fine axe of the broad kind was found on the Beachler farm near Baker P.O. It is an extra fine specimen, made of a very hard stone and partly polished; with a very large groove, and is symmetrically true.

"A very peculiar formed axe was found on the West Branch, in German Township, some years ago. The upper part, that is the groove and pole, is broad extending down about an inch below the groove, where it suddenly narrows forming the bit part, leaving a decided shoulder on either side. It has a well formed groove and is very well finished. Why it should have been made into such a peculiar shape is a mystery; the stone may have been naturally as the finished

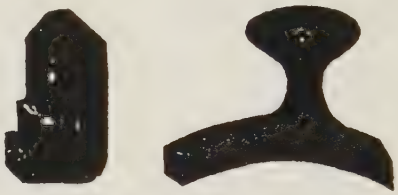
axe is, and to save a large amount of work, simply made as it is." (Dalrymple)

Axes

Tapering at Both Ends - "Is an exceedingly rare form of large pestle. Isaac Ross of German Township has a typical relic of this class. This pestle is about twelve inches long, in the centre is probably three inches in diameter, tapering to a point at both ends, and almost perfectly round. On each end for a distance of an inch it is perfectly smooth, made so by being turned round and round in a hold made to fit the point. It is our opinion that this relic had been used like a modern rolling pin, the implement being held by the polished points in the hollow of both hands and then rolled over grain, roots, etc., to pulverize them, as it is admirably adapted for that purpose. It is doubtful whether it could be called a pestle." (Dalrymple)

Flint caches - "The ancient Americans obtained flint blocks and fragments at an extensive and well-known outcrop of this material, southeast of Newark in Licking County, Ohio, where signs of extensive quarrying appear. The flint was taken out some distance below the surface where it was found to be more easily chipped and worked out. The material secured here was often carried several hundred miles to some camp site, probably by some nomadic tribe of traders, where it was chipped off and worked into the desired implements. If not needed at the time the leaves or flakes or flint were buried a few inches beneath the surface for safe deposit and probably to keep them damp and in condition for working when needed. Such burials are known as 'caches' and have been encountered in various parts of the county. A few typical finds will be noted, all of which occured near streams. A cache was found in German Township near the upper West Branch on the farm of Iven Parent and consisted of about a peck of light lead colored chips of chert, ranging from an inch and a half to two inches in width and from two to three inches in length. The uniform color, texture and cleavage of these speciments showed clearly that they were all of the same material. A cache, comprising about three pecks of gray flakes, was revealed upon the uprooting of a large tree by the wind some forty years ago on the farm now owned by J.W. Ross, in the southeast quarter of section 22, Washington Township, near Crout Creek." (Fraser E. Wilson, 1914 *History of Darke County*)

Pipes - "Another catlinite pipe was found in section five, German township, on the Clemens land at the head of Carnahan branch of Greenville Creek. (Now in the collection of E.M. Thresher, Dayton, Ohio.) A carved stone tortoise was picked up near Fort Jefferson. Effigy pipes, record pipes and common pipes have also been found in limited numbers. The list of implements and ornaments found at various times scattered over the county is a large one and includes flint and chert knives, spears, arrow heads, drills, slate stone discs, badges, gorgets, axes, calling tubes, scrapers, record tablets, thread shapers, rubbing stones, granite mortars, pestles, celts, hammers, axes, balls, etc.. Large numbers of these were secured in early days by Dr. Gabriel Miesse, and by Anthony and Charles Katzenbarger, and many are now on exhibition in the public museum in Greenville." (Fraser E. Wilson, 1914 *History of Darke County*)



Pipes

Early Pioneers

The 1880 Beers *History of Darke County* has recorded some of the earliest settlers in German township.

"James Cloyd was born in Virginia, in 1790, and removed to Ohio when a child. Engaged as a soldier during the War of 1812, he was stationed much of the time at Fort Greenville. In 1815, he married Elizabeth Noftsinger, daughter of Andrew Noftsinger, one of the pioneers of the county. Mr. Norftsinger had built a block-house during the troublous period, and in this he lived until peace was declared."

"In 1814, Mr. Cloyd moved to this township and settled on the prairie, just south of the present site of Palestine."

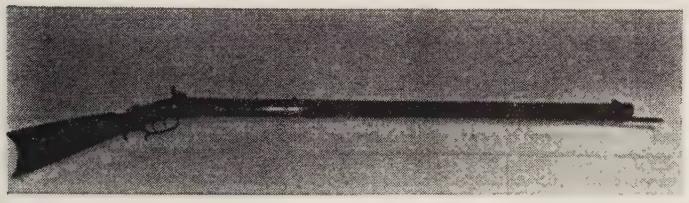
"Jonathan Pearson settled on the prarie southeast of the village named, about 1816, but little was known of this man more than that he came originally from South Carolina, as did, also, Alexander Pearson, who was, perhaps, the third settler. Samuel Loring, who settled on the southwest quarter of section 14, and who laid out the town of Palestine, was the next permanent settler. Peter Crumrine moved into German Township on March 12, 1817. The name of Daniel Wagner is associated with those of the Pioneers. The family of which he was a member located on the northeast quarter of section 24, on the edge of the prairie. They were originally from Berks County, Penn., whence they migrated, in 1806, to Ohio and then to this county and township. The elder Wagner was a soldier in the war for independence, and, at its conclusion, like other of the Continentals, returned to peaceful pursuits and derived a good farm for the family growing up about him. John Wagner had ten children..."

"The fall of 1817 marked the actual beginning of the settlement of the township. A number of families arrived at this time and entering lands began the work of providing home and field. Martin Ketring and family and George Teaford, then a young man, arrived this fall and entered a part of Section 22. These people were likewise of German descent. The former was a native German. Their more immediate previous home was Fairfield County, Ohio. John, son of Martin Ketring, had been married previous to coming here, and is still living at a good old age. Teaford was soon

married to Miss Magdalina Ketring and raised a large family, two sons of whom still live in the township and are among the largest farmers in it. The same fall, and in October, Henry Ross, a native of Virginia, located on land in the northwest part of section 24. He came here from Pickaway County, and, about the same time, George Stingley and family, Virginians, located on the southeast quarter of section 12, where a son now resides. The settlement in the extreme southwest part of the township was delayed until 1826, on account of its wet level nature."

The history of settlement according to the 1875 *Plat of Darke County, Ohio,* is somewhat different, so is also included here.

"Jonathan Pearson and Martin Ketring, who came in 1815, were the first settlers in the township. Some claim, however, that Samuel Loring, who settled where Palestine now stands, came earlier than they, but 1817 is the probable date. John McNeill, Jas. Cloyd, Jas. Woods, Wear Cassady, and John Wagoner were early settlers. Daniel Wagoner, still living, remained alone, during the winter of 1817 and 1818, taking care of his father's cattle. He had two dogs and his gun for company, and for neighbors the families of Indians, who were camped a few hundred yards from his cabin.



Daniel Waggoner's muzzel loader.

The 1875 adds the following on the early settlers in neighboring townships.

"Harrison is one of the townships that was settled before the War of 1812. About 1810, several families settled here, among whom were John Brawley, the Purviances, and Samuel McClure and his sons. These all went away during the war and returned at its close. It is said that Ishmael Bunch, who was one of the earliest settlers of Wayne County, Indiana, built a cabin and lived for some time in Harrison Township; he was a genuine frontiersman, depending more on the rifle for his sustenance than upon the plough. At the close of the war settlers began to come in quite rapidly. Among the first of these were Wm. and John Wade, who settled near New Madison in 1816, the Tillsons, Harlans, and Jas. Emerson, in the same year, also John Rush, Joseph Gest, Jacob Miller and Zadoc Smith, who laid out the town of New Madison in 1817."

"The first settler in the township (Neave) was Andrew Noftsinger, in 1810. Jas. Hayes also was a very early settler, at Fort Jefferson. John Ryerson came in 1816, and within that and the two succeeding years came - Moses Arnold, Geo. W. Hight, Wm. Townsend, Hezekiah Vietz, John Puterbaugh, and Christian Schlecte. George Nogel and T.C. Neave were also among the first settlers, as were Wm. and Simeon Chapman and Adam Belles."

"The first settler in the township (Washington) was Martin Cox, who settled in 1816 on land now owned by Samuel Cole, Jr. His brother, Jacob Cox, came to the township about the same time. John Snell and Christian Miller in 1817; Daniel Shively, Philip Rarick, Chas. Sumption, Jr., Samuel Cole Sr., Skidmore, Brady, and Elston in 1819; Jacob and John Chenoweth, 1820; and Edward Baldwin, Henry Creviston, Isaac Cheery, Thos. Thompson, David Wasson, Jesse Gray, 1819 and Thos. Beasley, were among the early settlers. Gray and Beasley were somewhat noted as 'Indian hunters'; that is, hunting Indians as others hunted wolves."

The locations of some of these settlers is given by Prof. McIntosh in the 1914 *History of Darke County.*

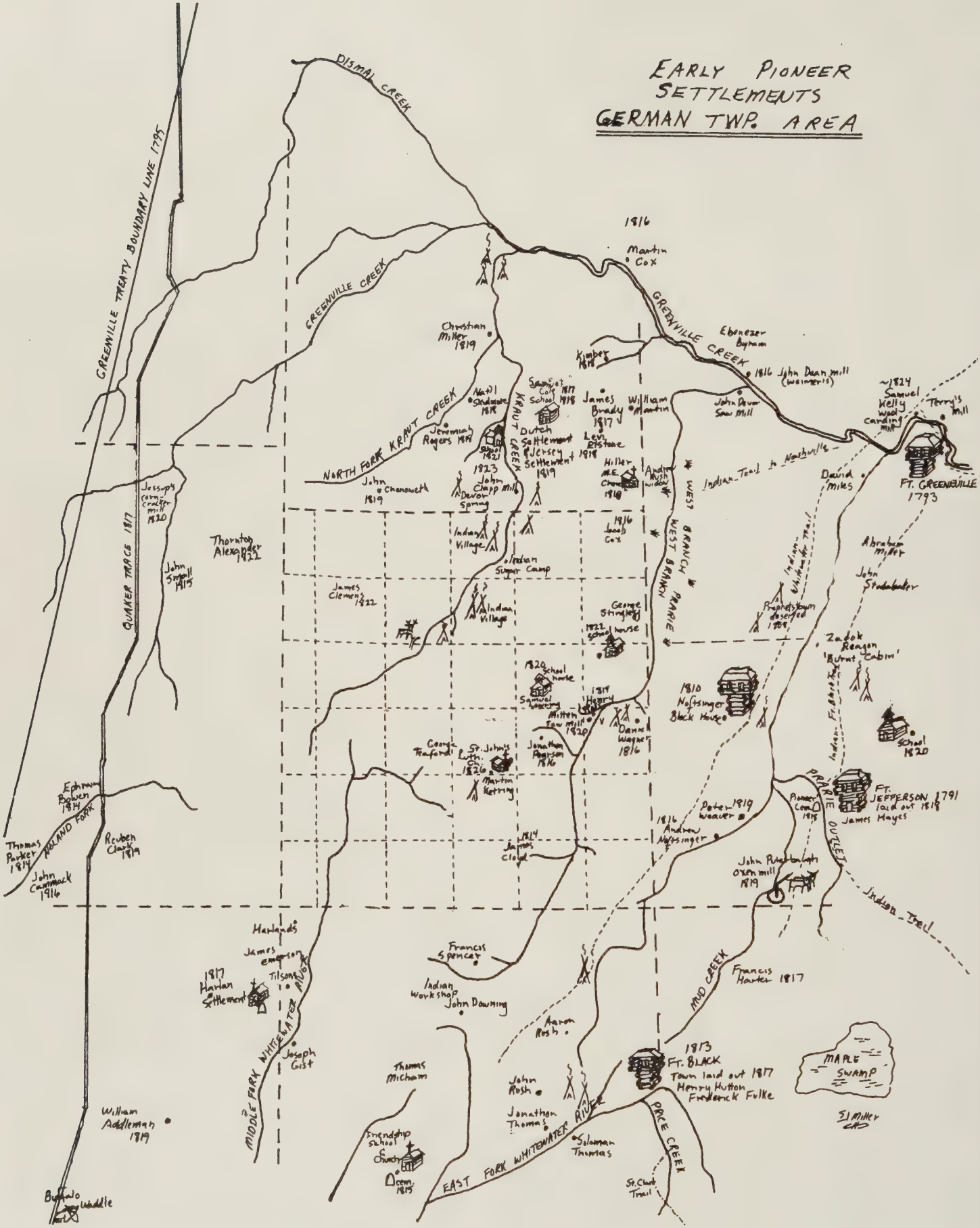
"On the east bank of the Whitewater stood the cabins of Brawley Purviance, the McClures, Broderick and Jacob Miller, Zodoc Smith and the Wades. Near Fort Black, by the lake, were the Rushes, Henry Hardy, Tibbs, Falknor, and possibly the Kunkles. On the Middle Fork were the Tilsons, Harlans, Emerson, Helpenstein and Gert. Approaching the town, we find Spencer, the Edwards families, Wilsons, and others. Further to the north we come to Cloyd, Pearson, Cassaday and Kettring. About Palestine dwelt Samuel Loring. In the northern part of German township lived Ludwig Clapp, reputed credulous and superstitious, William Asher, of the same mind, Moores and Rush and John McNeil, Rarick, Snell and Miller, on Crout creek and its vicinity. East of the West Branch dwelt Martin Ruple, Archibald Bryson and John Whittaker, while lower down were the small clearings made by John Hiller and Daniel Potter. Mud creek passed by the cabin homes of Peter Weaver, Andrew Noffsinger, his son Joseph, James and Henry Rush, Sumption McGinnis, Burns and Wertz.

"These men had settled here under many difficult circumstances, but they had effected a lodgment and formed a center by which others could be guided and assisted. Persistent in labor, patient under afflictions of disease were these plain men with unaffected manner and kindly greetings. As the country began to be settled, families were moving on to different locations in the central part of the county. There was a large portion of the county that seemed so much of a swamp as to make a final occupation problematical. Along Greenville creek, as above named, one found at varying distances the log cabins of a few families, and there were others on the West Branch. There were cabins on the branch known as Crout creek, and yet others upon Mud creek. These scattered clearings were the oldest in the county, and northward there were few, if any. And from there, so far as means would permit, the newcomers received their supplies and assistance."

A county government for Darke County was formed 1817. The 1875 Darke County Atlas informs us that, "The first action of the Board of Commissioners was to order 'that tavern license for the present year be eight dollars, and license to keep store be ten dollars.' A tax of thirty cents a head was levied on horses, and ten cents a head on cattle."

Harrison township was formed May 1818; Adams and Washington townships in March 1819; Richland in September 1820; German in December 1820; Neave in December 1821; and Butler a little later.

"In 1818, there was the commencement of a settlement on the east fork of Whitewater, and on Twin creek, near Ithaca, and several families had settled near Fort Black, now known as New Madison. During this year, Minatown and Fort Jefferson were laid out, and, in the year following, Versailles was platted, making in all five villages, the germs of future business towns, and the only ones for full dozen years - practical proof, in so large a county, of sparce and


EARLY PIONEER SETTLEMENTS
GERMAN TWP. AREA
GREENVILLE TREATY BOUNDARY LINE 1795
DISMAL CREEK
GREENVILLE CREEK
NORTH FORK KRAUT CREEK
KRAUT CREEK
WEST BRANCH PRAIRIE
PRAIRIE OUTLET
MUD CREEK
MIDDLE FORK WHITEWATER
EAST FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
PRICE CREEK
ROLAND FORK
QUAKER TRACE 1817
Indian Trail to Northville
Indian Trail
Indian Wabash Trail
Indian Fishing Trail
1816
Martin Cox
Christian Miller 1819
Ebenezer Bytam
1816 John Dean mill (wagonmaker)
~1824 Samuel Kelly wool carding mill
Terry's mill
FT. GREENEVILLE 1793
David Miles
Abraham Miller
John Studebaker
Zadok Reagen Cabin
Burnt
School 1820
FT. JEFFERSON 1791 laid out 1818
James Hayes
Peter Weaver 1819
Pioneer Cem. 1815
John Puckerbaugh Oaken mill 1819
Andrew Nofsinger 1816
1810 Nofsinger Block House
1820 School house
Samuel Wagner
Mitten Saw mill 1820
Daniel Wagner 1816
George Stringfield house
1822 school
James Clemens 1822
Thornton Alexander 1822
John Small 1819
Jessup's corn cracker mill 1820
Indian Village
Indian Sugar Camp
1816 Isaac Cox
James Brady 1817
William Martin
John Dever Saw mill
Levi Ristine 1818
Hiller M.E. Church 1818
Andrew Rush
Dutch Settlement
Jersey Settlement 1819
1823 John Clapp mill
Spencer Cole School 1818
Noah Studebaker 1818
Jeremiah Rogers 1818
John Chenoweth 1819
Ephraim Bowen 1814
Thomas Parker 1814
John Cammack 1816
Reuben Clark 1814
William Addleman 1819
Buffalo Huddle
Harlands
James Emerson
Tilson's Place
1817 Harlan Settlement
Joseph Gist
Francis Spencer
Indian Workshop
John Downing
Aaron Rush
Thomas Michaux
John Rush
Jonathan Thomas
Solomon Thomas
Friendship School & Church
Cem. 1815
St. Clair Trail
1813 FT. BLACK
Town laid out 1817
Henry Hutton
Frederick Fulke
Francis Harker 1817
MAPLE SWAMP
SJ Miller CAD
St. John's Luth. Ch. 1826
Martin Ketring
George Rexford
Jonathan Pearson 1816
1814 James Cloud

tardy occupation." (*History of Darke County, Ohio,* 1914)

Jacob and Eve Cox - "In 1816 the entire family emigrated westward to Darke County, Ohio, from Fayette County, Pennsylvania. A settlement was first made in the northeast portion of German township, and they were among the first to take up their abode in what was then an almost unbroken wilderness. The trip from Pennsylvania had been made with teams and wagons, and often they had to mark out a road for themselves or follow an old Indian trail. There in the midst of the woods Mr. Cox, assisted by his children, made a small clearing and erected a rude log cabin, in which they began life on the frontier in true pioneer style." Jacob's sons, Jacob and Martin, "came to Washington township, Darke county, after the death of their father, and were the first white men to enter claims in this locality." Jacob Jr. and his brother were "living with them in German township until 1817, when he and his brother removed to Washington township." "They took up adjoining claims, and the first cabin was erected where the home of Samuel Cole now stands. In that little home both brothers with their families lived for some time, or until a cabin could be erected on the land owned by Jacob Cox, now the property of his son, William. The little pioneer home stood on the site of the present handsome residence, and in this rude domicile, the second one to be erected in Washington township, the sturdy pioneer family began life in the midst of the forest.

"In the early days the Indians often camped in a small ravine near his (Jacob Cox Sr.) home, but they were friendly and occasioned no trouble to the settlers." (p. 248, 1900 *Biography of Darke County*)

The will of Jacob Cox lists sons Martin, Jacob, John, Abraham, and Henry as receiving parcels of land in German and Washington townships. Three daughters also received quarter sections in NE German township. Barbary, married to a Stingley; Mary, married to a Waggoner; and Eve, married to a Martin. (*Darke County Will Book A-1-94*)

Waggoner - The late E.T. Wagner in his family history notes, gives this information on John and Mary Ann Waggoner. They came to Darke County in 1816. "There they found what was the most necessary part of living - flowing springs of water. Also for neighbors they found an Indian tribe consisting of about 200 peaceable tribesmen. In passing your writer (E.T. Wagner) well remembers our Grandmother tell about the Indians that lived over on the ridge of the old farm near Bakers Store.

"It was early summer when they first settled, and immediately they built a cabin and cleared some land for planting corn. Again let me say that we children drank from the same springs of water many times in later years.

"Winter was coming on and the great grandparents thought it best to take most of the family and return to Montgomery County for the winter. But two of the sons, Daniel and William, remained to clear more land for planting next year. We are told that their supply of food was exhausted and many times depended on the Indians for meal to sustain life. Here they lived for the winter and the next year built more cabins for the large family which returned from Montgomery County. Other settlers came to the community, and in a few years they could see the smoke from the neighbors camp fires.

"It is interesting to know that these early settlers were religious folks and assembled at each others homes for the reading of the Bible and to sing gospel hymns.

"No surveys were made until 1825, and when that was done, they made claim to 160 acres of land. They received a deed from the Government on parchment and signed by President John Quincy Adams. This deed is still in the Wagner family and on exhibit in 'Lowell Thomas' room in the Garst museum.

"Soon after the surveys of 1825, John Waggoner left to return to Berks County, Pennsylvania to sell some land. But he never made it there and family tradition has it very likely he was killed somewhere in Ohio, by some of the savage Indians."

Henry Ross - "In October 1817, he located on 160 acres of land, in Washington Twp., the part which later formed German Twp. James Monroe was president at this time.

"His family was one of the first in the Twp. There was nothing but a vast wilderness greeting him on every hand. He first built a temporary shed until he could erect a more substantial dwelling. Gathering together all the few settlers that were there, they erected a 'pioneer's home', a log cabin, in a single day. The next thing he did was to clear a part of his land of forests for spring cultivation. He worked all through the winter to do this, and the winter was an unusually severe one.

"There were two Indian villages of considerable size within the limits of German Twp. These Indians were troublesome to the settlers at times. Henry Ross' son Robert was kidnapped by some Indians one day. On another day they ran away his horses.

"Mr. Ross assisted in building the first church in the Twp. (sec. 36) and this was also the first in Darke Co. The date of construction was 1819, and was erected by volunteer labor of all the settlement. When it was completed it was free to all. It was a Methodist Episcopal Church. This church was still used as late as 1880. Henry Ross was the first minister of this church. He was a local minister of the M.E. Church and for almost a lifetime, he preached the Gospel.

"The earliest attempt at raising fruit trees in the county was made by Henry Ross in 1817. He had brought some apples from Franklin County, (Ohio) saved the seeds, and together with some pears and peaches he planted them. Some time later, he grafted his trees."

Henry Ross and his wife Sarah Cook were the parents of 12 children. (Notes of Ester Ross.)

Ketring, Teaford, Wilcox - "They were the 'salt of the earth,' these grand old citizens, who, with ax and wooden mouldboard plow, put Darke Co. on its way to agricultural supremacy 130 years ago. As Grandma (Malinda) Wilcox talks come memories of David Ketring, who came to this section with his father from Fairfield Co., and who, after marrying Martha Brant, born in Preble Co., had born to them the twins, that died, and Elizabeth, Joseph, Malinda, Jane, Phoebe, Benjamin, Clarissa and Martha, who helped their parents make their farm in West Branch prairie the best in all the country round.

"And of George Teaford, who came to this fertile acreage along with the Ketrings, later marrying Magdalena Ketring, and whose 12 children, among them also a set of twins, who, by their habits of thrift 'soon owned all the land that joined them.' And of James Wilcox, native of Germantown, Mont-

gomery Co., who came to Palestine in an early period and whose illustrious father, one James Wilcox, Sr., of Stephen Girard's shop in Philadelphia, made the pair of fine boots, costing $40, that Henry Clay wore at the Treaty of Ghent. And how, later, this sire, seized with the wanderlust, landed at Cincinnati with but 50 cents in his pocket and all his earthly possessions tied up in a silk handkerchief.

"He came on foot to Germantown, where he made good at his vocation, later moving to Preble Co. for a try at farming. At last he went to Palestine, where he was successful at farming and sawmilling until his passing. Grandma Wilcox remembers many of these folk tales and is just as bright as the proverbial dollar, in spite of her 92 years." (From Greenville newspaper article)

Lewis Aukerman - "Lewis Aukerman son of John and Mary Hole Aukerman married first wife and removed half mile south from Palestine where she shortly died of 'milk sickness'. Twin babies also died and were buried at what is now Mt. Zion Cemetery.

Lewis Aukerman married the second time to Elizabeth Brower Jan. 21st., 1830. She was born March 22, 1812 and was 18 years old at the time of marriage and 12 years old at the time the Browers moved from Roanoke, Va. to Ohio.

The Aukerman Homestead South of Palestine and all the surrounding was more or less a dense forest. There stood a log cabin into which they moved in the spring of 1830. This cabin was a simple home in the wilderness. No chairs - one skillet, four knives and forks and a few other contrivances made up the household furniture. East of the present brick house in a field the brick was burned to build the house in 1841. Lewis Aukerman and Elisabeth Brower Aukerman were the parents of 13 children; 7 boys and 6 girls. Lewis Aukerman Sen died Oct. 16th, 1854 after short illness with the flux aged 52 years 22 days. Elizebeth his wife died Feb. 17th, 1895 aged 82 years, 10 months and 25 days. Aside from farming Lewis Aukerman Sen teamed considerable back and forth to Piqua and Cincinnati." (Lola Aukerman diary ca. 1920)

Lindemuth - Michael Lindemuth Sr. (born Dec. 5, 1806) married Elizabeth Sherrick Sept. 18, 1828. "Michael Lindemuth was born in Berks Co. Pa. came with his parents to Germantown, Montgomery Co., Ohio. Soon after their marriage they came to German Twp. Darke Co., Ohio, located on SE ¼ section 24 where one vast wilderness of woods and brushes confronted them. By hard toil and many weary years of labor they had a comfortable home, though often deprived of the necessities of life. The mother and grandmother would toil early and late and by dim candle light would run the carder or spinning wheel to make cloth for the garments of the children. To Michael and his good wife were born 10 children." (Alice Lindamood Ritz notes)

Pioneer Sales

An interesting look at the early pioneers comes from an old Record book of Inventories, Sale bills, and Estates in Darke County from its organization.

This book found in the Darke County Clerk's office reveals inventories of possessions of the pioneers, and lists the neighbors who purchased these items at estate sales. The 1818 to 1822 period includes three sales in the southwest part of the county that were attended by pioneers living in this area.

Griffith's Sale - Thomas Griffiths estate was sold Oct. 2, 1819, late of Greenville township. His inventory included: churn, log chain, set of plough irons, two clevises, axe, pitchfork, pot rack and two pair horse shoes, pair of horses gears, pair of drawing chains, pair of horses back band and bridle, man's saddle, halter chain and cairn, two blowing trumpets, shoe hammer pincers and knife, hammer and stake, two gimblets and lamp, two pad locks, pair of steelyards, silver watch, six window lights, table, bolt of cloth, bell and coller, grey mare and colt, bridle, tea kettle, spade.

Those who were recorded as making purchases at the sale were John Hiller, Peter Livengood, Abm Swathwood, Danl Gray, Martin Rupel, John Witacre, Archibald Bryson, Henry Creviston, Charles Sumption, Jno Embree, James Rush, George Nee, Isaac Dunn, John Phillips, Anthony Hiller, Geo. McKee, and Barbara Griffeth.

Rush Sale - January 28, 1820, the estate inventory of Peter Rush, late of Greenville township, was sold. His large inventory included: loom, three slays, three pair gears and Rathe, big wheel, spinning wheel, chest, meet tub, three gallon cag, three tubs, barrel, thirteen lb. tallow, pair of ternpels and two shuttles, twenty-five spools, sundries, fire shovel, lantron and sive, arithmatick and slate, loge chaine, two axes, three axes, two sets horse gears, handsaw and drawing knife, frying pan, four weeding hoes, augers and chissels, set of shumakers tools, half bushel and tub, plow and double trees, kettle and stew pot, riffle gun, two tubs, sith and hanging, two sickels, tea kettle, two gimblets, dresser ware, books, hammer and buttons, blowing trumpet, check rell, churn, bed and bedding, three chairs and table, spool rook and barer, pitch fork, three bags, riddle and half bushel, lether, tub, waggon and harnis, grine stone, sythe and cradle, three turkeys, three stands of bees, horse saddel and bridel, two year old colte, old mare, chance of the Graye Mare, sixty head of hogs, lot hay, one-hundred and fifty bushels corn, nine head sheep, five steers, cow's bell, red cow, two black cows, mewley cow, black cow, seven yearlings, five spring calves, flax, eight bushels buckwheat, cutting box and three barrels, seventy bushels rye, one-hundred and twenty-one bushels wheat, two bridles and halter, eleven empty bee hives, bed and bedding, cooper tools, howel, adse, bell, nursery of apple trees, hay stack, shovel plow, twenty bushels potatoes, truck.

Those recorded in attendance at Peter Rush's sale were: Augstan Moorehouse, Aaron Rush, Jesse Rush, Jonathan Mote, Daniel Jordon, Martin Rupel, George Sumption, Randolph Tucker, A. Bryson, John Embrey, Nathaniel Ross, James Cloyd, Donovan Reed, George Mitten, Moses Rush, John Rush, David Williamson, Samuel C. Cuberron, Isaac Teter (Deeter), Daniel Holly, Isabella Rush, George Waggoner, Charles Runnel, Joseph Township, John Weaver, Nathanial Adams, Isaac Dunn, Henry Ross, Timothy Nash, Alexander Smith, Amis P. Baldwin, Archeal Crumrine, William Scott, Sally Sumner, Abm. Miller, Baverley Cary, George McKee, Anthony Hiller, George Freshour, Margaret Rush, David Holley, Andw. W. Ingraham, Sarah Mash, Barnabas Burns, Fredrick Reed, George Noggle, Wm. M. Hood, John Witaker, Henry Hiller, Abm. Puderbaugh, Asa Rush, Jas. Bryson, Uriah

Ingraham, Daniel Deder, Jno. Miller, David Mason, Mary Rush, Jno. Wagner, James Stevenson, Jacob Myers, Isaac Deder.

Mote Sale - David Mote, late of Harrison township, sale was Jan. 7, 1822. His inventory included red cow, brindle bull, red and white heifer, black steer, heifer calf, bull calf, spring colt, bay mare, hogs, sows and shoats, shovel plow, pair of double trees, hide, hog skin, yearling horse colt, sled, thirty bushel corn, two chopping axe, broad axe, rifle gun and shot pouch and powder horn, crosscut saw, saddle and bridle, bee stands, log chain, grubbing hoe, pair of horse gears, handsaw, six augers, tommahalk, iron square and compasses, drawing knife, broad hoe, basket, scythe, log sled, three chissels, frow, three clevises and one twisted link, iron wedge, Scuter plow, two sickles, two hackels, churn, horse hide, bedstead and cord, barrel, cag and vinegar, two small tubs, tub, big wheel, big pot, grindstone, stew kettle, four planes, four small planes, two sets of ploughs and groves, box of shoemaker's tools, trumpet, three files and one gouge, razor box and brush, two raccoon skins, table, chest, twenty-five small apple trees, balance of the nursery, twenty bushel potatoes, lot of rye, lot of corn, hay pile, lot of poplar plank, flax brake, pile of flax seed in the chuff, salt barrel, mattock, tea kettle, bull plow, keg of herd grass, bag timothy seed, hatchet.

In attendance at his sale were: Aaron Rush, Hankinson Ashby, John Mitchum, Heanderson Spencer, Donovan Reed, John Cassady, Joseph Casler, James Polly, George Teaford, Robert Watson, William Polley, Thomas Mitchum, Jonathon Mote, James Skinner, John Weaver, James Edwards, Moses Moore Sr., John Ketering, Elijah Burgel, William Mote, James Compton, Jacob Teaford, John A. King, Jeremiah Mote, Zachariah Friah, James Cloyd, Samuel Snodgrass, Nathan Owens, Henry Huntsinger, John Miller, Joshua Mitten, Abraham Murray, John Brodrick, John Brawley, William Curry, Francis Cassiday, Esther Crosby, John Brown, and John Downing.

1820 Census

Although German township was not organized at the time of this census, the heads of family were still in Washington township and the heads of family of Washington township for 1820 were: James Brady, James Cloyd, John Clapp, John Chenoweth, Jacob Cox Sen., Peter Crumerine, Eli Coble, Ludewick Clapp, Jacob Cox Jr., Martin Cox, Samuel Cole, Johnston Deniston, William Eaker, Levi Elston, Hezekiah Fowler, Daniel Gray, John Helle, Daniel K. Jordon, Hudson Jones, Samuel Loring, Thomas Little, Christian Miller, William Martin, John McNiel, Geo. McKee, George Knee, Conrad Harter, John Noffsinger, Jonathon Pierson, Nathaniel Ross, Donovan Reed, Chas. Reynolds, Moses Rush, Jeremiah Rodgers, Silas Simpkins, Daniel Shively, Geo. Stingley, Jacob Teford, Isaac Vail, Jno. Waggoner, Daniel Wagoner, David Wasson, Andrew Perkins, Thomas Copestick, John Snell, Isaac Dunn, Peter Kimber, Sam'l Fisher, Mary Baird, Martin Ketering, Philip Ranch, Geo. Teaford, William R. Jones, Benj. Akin, Jon Embree, Samuel Pearson, Henry Ross, Joshua Mitten, Jno. Crumrine, Samuel Tygart, Robert Phillips, Jacob Sutton, Isaac Cherry, Darlington Jeffers, John Kettering, Enoch Gough, Abm. Cox, Jono Coble, Michael Hively, Wm. Graham, Saml. Cole Sr., Stephen Perrine, Geo. Nee Sr., Bennedict Singer, Sam Sinton, Joseph Pemberton, Polley Bryant, Joseph Bickson, Hezekiah Fowler.

1824 Census

The 1880 *History of Darke County,* page 280, provides the following condition of the county in 1824.

"At that time, the present townships of Mississinewa, Jackson, Allen, York, Patterson and Wabash, did not contain a single inhabitant. In Brown, there were three families; in Franklin, one; in Monroe, three; more than three-fourths of the townships of Wayne, Richland, Adams, Van Buren, Butler, and Twin, were an unbroken wilderness, and in the most populous parts of the county, more than half the land yet belonged to the United States. The present fine valleys of East Fork, Mud Creek, West Branch and Bridge Creek, were dismal swamps, tangled morasses through which the intrepid surveyors under Ludlow forced their way; at times waist-deep in water and resisted by briars, branches and tall grasses. Half the farms were fenceless; cattle and swine ran half wild, and the latter were trapped and hunted with ferocious dogs.

"There were in the county six brick houses and thrice that number of frame buildings, the cost of construction of none having been in excess of $500. Every other human habitation was the log house, in its various phases, from the roundpole structure with bark covering, to the two-story hewed-log with shingle roof and glazed windows. There were a number of school houses, the best of which was not worth $15 and all of them together would have been dear at $100.

"Two meeting-houses, one a Methodist and one a Hard-shell Baptist, built of hewed logs, and roofed with clapboard, composed the ecclesiastical structures of the county at that period. Religious services were held at long and irregular intervals, at various places, the court house, private dwellings, or if the weather permitted, out of doors."

This 1824 account by John Wharry is continued from page 10 of the 1875 *Darke County Atlas.*

"There were not then 100 acres of cleared land on any one farm in the county; what the proportion of cultivated to wild land was cannot now be known, but sixteen years later (1840) the amount of land reduced to the uses of civilization by being fenced in (and much of that still covered with timber, and called woods pasture) only amounted to 29 per cent."

"It remains only to advert to the general features of the county. At that time the lands subjected to cultivation were the more elevated portions of Greenville, Washington, German, Harrison, and Adams townships; on Miller's Fork in Twin, and the head of Twin Creek in Butler. The beautiful and now fertile valleys of the West Branch, Mud Creek, Bridge Creek, Harris Creek, and the east fork of the Whitewater were then marshy bogs, into which, if man or beast ever ventured, it was at the risk of never getting out again. The Panther Creek and Ludlow slashes, and the swamps of Twin, reaching from Greenville Creek to the south boundary of the county, and from the east side of Neave and Butler Townships to the Miami County line, and including an area of one hundred square miles, now exhibiting a body of as good farming lands as can be found in the Miami Valley, and which are now as well-improved and highly cultivated as any portion of the county, fifty years ago, and for many years after, were a wilderness, heavily

timbered, and much the greater portion under water varying in depth from one to five feet for more than half the year. In a similar condition until quite a recent period was more than half the townships of Jackson, Brown, Allen, Wabash, and Patterson. These regions have almost entirely been reclaimed to agricultural uses, and are now producing some thirty, some sixty, and some an hundred fold."

1830 Census

Included in the 1830 census for German township were: Abraham Cox, Elizabeth Pearce, Henry Cox, Jacob Neff, Peter Crumerine, Martin Overly, Darlington Jeffries, Samuel Crumerine, Jeremiah Phips, William Eaker, Samuel Fisher, Elizabeth Eaker, Moses Rush, John Hell, Emanuel Metz, Hector S. Howard, John Coble, Eve Coble, Thomas Hines, Philip Hell, Eli Coble, John Holland, Isaac Bass, Alfred Smith, James Clemmons, Charles Clemmons, Reuben Bass, James Brooks, Gabriel Green, James Bass, John Bass, Clifford Smith, Benjamin Carpenter, Henry Hell, Nicholas Tincle, John Wiley, Thomas Loring, Thomas Wiley Jr., Thomas Wiley Sr., William Brady, David Ashby, Eleanor Pemberton, John Billingsley, John Loring, Harvy Harrison, William Wiley, William Hellem, Charles W. Thomas, George Thomas, James P. Edwards, James Cloyd, Samuel Thompson, James Brown, Henry Huntsinger, Jacob Huntsinger, Isaac Jesup, William Robeson, James Bannon, Adolphus Reynolds, John Knee, Benjamin Eakins, Joshua Cloyd, Samuel Guyre, George Teaford, David Ketring, Samuel Ketring, Daniel Harter, John Ketring, Mary Draper, Michael Faler, Jonathan Pearson, Lewis Aukerman, Nathaniel Harris, Samuel Loring, Thomas H. Wiley, John Teaford, Ludwick Clapp, James Woods, Thomas Peadon, Donovan Reed, Daniel Waggoner, George Stingley, John Crumerine, Jane Linten, Frederick Bowers, Henry Ross, Samuel Parent, Abraham Puterbaugh, Nathaniel Ross, David Stevens, John Waggoner, William Waggoner, George Knee, Aley Ross, James Reed, John Puterbaugh, Joseph Jeffries, Michael Kunkle, William Parent.

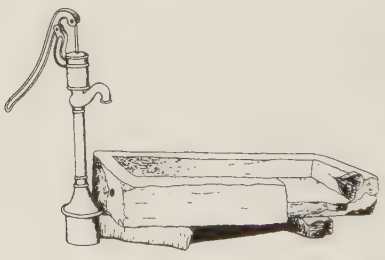
1843 Homestead

An interesting look at perhaps an ideal homestead for the pioneers is provided in a deed record recorded at the Recorder's office in Deed book Q-2, page 477. On September 21, 1847, Elizabeth Berry leased to Daniel T. Davis her land in German Township being the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of section 29, the SE ¼ of SE ¼ of section 20, and the NW ¼ of NW ¼ of section 28. Although the nature of the deed may be unusual in that it was a 12 year lease commencing January 1, 1843, it gives a graphic look at what may have been a typical homestead for the pioneer.

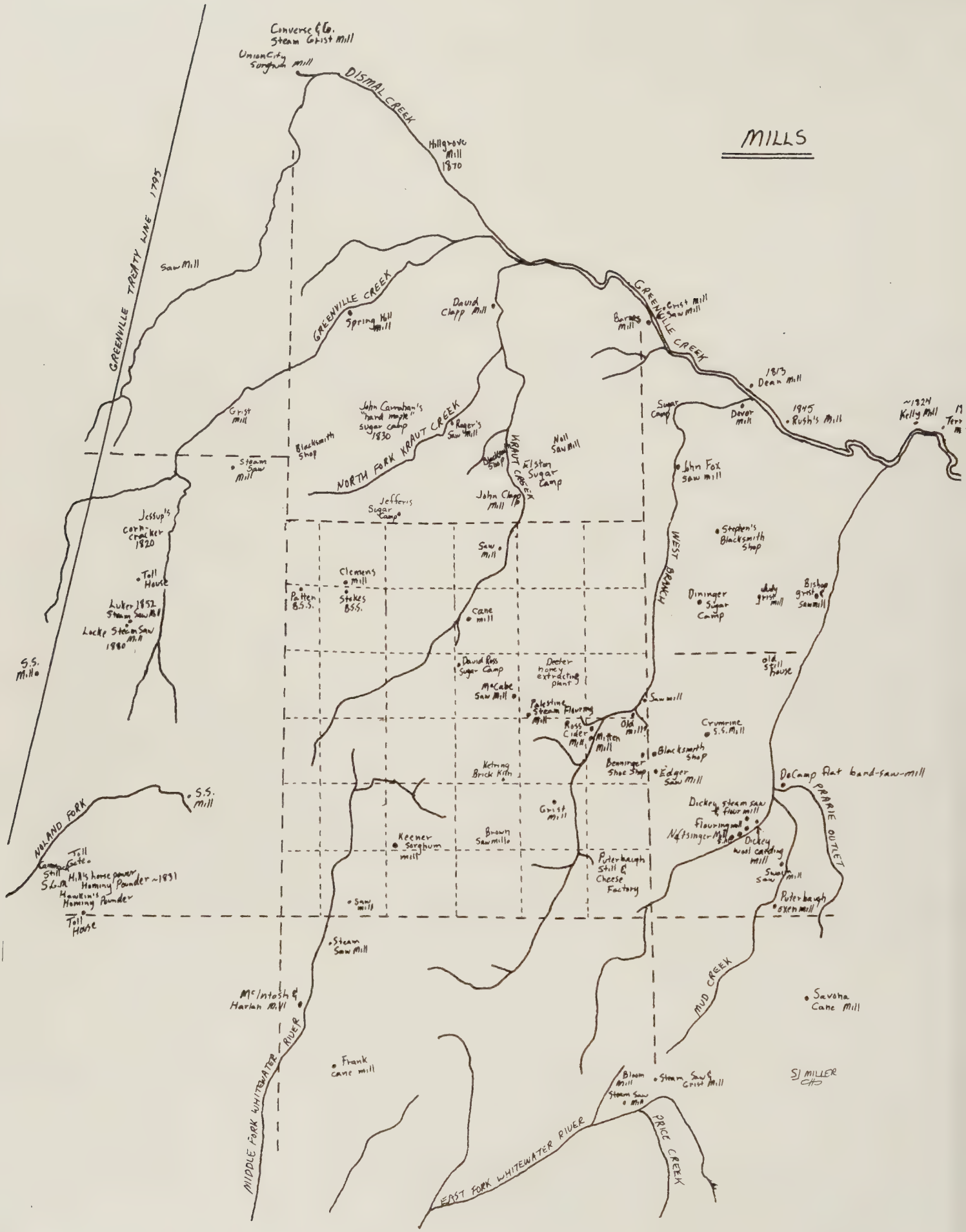
"Daniel T. Davis for himself his heirs executors and administrators do covenant and agree to clear forty acres or more Smooth and to fence the Same into four fields with a good Worm fence of nine Rails high and be left in good repair at the espiration of the term the clearing to be done principally where clearing is now done and to build a hewed log house 20 by 22 feet one and a half Stories high with a brick Chimney Cabin Roof with the boards nailed and floors to be well laid and Chimney to be in the inside with Stairs on one Side and a Cupboard on the other, two doors three twelve lite windows below and one above all to be done in workman like manner and also a hewed log Barn 20 by 50 feet usual height. Cabin Roof boards nailed and to dig a well and wall the same either with stone or brick, the building to be set where the parties think best and the Said Davis is to plant an orchard of forty good selected apple trees convenient to the buildings to be fenced to its Self and that Said Davis is to take good care and not destroy any timber more than what is necessary for the use of the place and to have the premises in good repair at the espiration of the term."

1850 Occupations

The 1850 census was the first to record occupations, and the occupations other than farmer found in German township were: Wm. Zimmerman, saddler; Nathan Gibson, Justice of the Peace; Samuel W. Thropp, waggonmaker; M.P. Woods, blacksmith; A.C. Deem, merchant; James A. Davis, blacksmith; Charles A. Avery, clerk; John M. Harter, merchant; Wm. Woods, plasterer; George Teaford, blacksmith; David Fryer, saw miller; Harrod Mills, saw miller; Daniel Ingle, mechanic; John C. Deem, tanner; James Tate, physician; Wm. D. Martin, cabinent maker; John D. Mills, physician; John F. Faier, shoemaker; P.C. Wikoff, tailor; Solomon Frank, cooper; Daniel J. Davis, carpenter; Martin Rupe, carpenter; James Hardin, blacksmith; John G. Davis, waggonmaker; William Thompson, shoemaker; Samuel Harding, house carpenter; Henry Henshaw, carpenter; John Hanes, blacksmith; Jesse Flood, jack of all trades; Thomas Moss, blacksmith; John Vandever, blacksmith; Sam'l Fox, shoemaker; Suttur Monfort, lawyer; Edw. Law, cabinent maker; John Davis, ditcher; John Ross, merchant; Isaac Miller, plasterer; A. Moyer, waggonmaker; Henry Weaver, carpenter; S.O. Brodrick, tavern keeper; Marshal Woods, blacksmith; William C. Deem, tanner; Paul W. Jellison, tailor; John G. Norris, merchant; Sam'l Thomas, cabinent maker; Robert Smith, cooper; Sam'l Hitchcock, physician; Wm. Conway, shoemaker; Wm. D. McClellan, blacksmith; Thos. Carl, carpenter.



Henry Stingley pioneer homestead (1895) on New Madison - Coletown Road where David Miller lives now.


MILLS
Converse & Co. Steam Grist Mill
Union City Sorghum Mill
DISMAL CREEK
Hillgrove Mill 1870
GREENVILLE TREATY LINE 1795
Saw Mill
GREENVILLE CREEK
Spring Hill Mill
David Clapp Mill
Barnes Mill
Grist Mill & Saw Mill
1813 Dean Mill
Sugar Camp
Dover mill
1945 Rush's Mill
~1824 Kelly Mill
Grist mill
John Carnahan's "hard maple" sugar camp 1830
Roger's Saw Mill
Blacksmith Shop
NORTH FORK KRAUT CREEK
KRAUT CREEK
Nall Saw Mill
Elston Sugar Camp
John Fox saw mill
Steam Saw Mill
Jefferis Sugar Camp
John Clapp Mill
Jessup's Corn-cracker 1820
Stephen's Blacksmith Shop
Saw Mill
Toll House
Clemens Mill
Patten B.S.S.
Stakes B.S.S.
WEST BRANCH
Diminger Sugar Camp
Bishop grist & saw mill
Luker 1852 Steam Saw Mill
Locke Steam Saw Mill 1880
Cane mill
old Still house
S.S. Mill
David Ross Sugar Camp
Deter honey extracting plant
McCabe Saw Mill
Saw mill
Paketsing Steam Flouring Mill
Ross Cider Mill
Old mill
Mitten Mill
Crumrine S.S. Mill
Blacksmith Shop
Beeninger Shoe Shop
Edger Saw Mill
Kelting Brick Kiln
DeCamp flat band-saw-mill
Grist Mill
Dickey steam saw & flour mill
PRAIRIE OUTLET
NARLAND FORK
S.S. Mill
Flouring mill
Natsinger Mill
Dickey wool carding mill
Keener Sorghum mill
Brown Sawmills
Toll Gate
Still
S&M Mill's horse power Homing Pounder ~1831
Hawkin's Homing Pounder
Toll House
Puterbaugh Still & Cheese Factory
Saw mill
Puterbaugh oxen mill
Steam Saw Mill
McIntosh & Harlan Mill
MUD CREEK
Savona Cane Mill
MIDDLE FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
Frank cane mill
Bloom Mill Steam Saw Mill
Steam Saw & Grist Mill
SJ MILLER
EAST FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
PRICE CREEK

Chapter II
Mills

Mills were very important to the community as a source of power for grinding meal, sawing wood, carding wool, cracking corn. Although most of these mills have long been gone from the community, one can still sense their importance with visits to the still existant Bear's Mill, Middleboro, and the recent Wayne Mill on Martin Street in Greenville. Up until a few years ago, a sorghum mill in Union City still supplied free sorghum seed to plant.

The first mills depended on water to supply the power. Terry's Mill and Kelly's Mill dams were eventually torn down because the dammed water created a stagnant pond and swampy areas which created health problems. From the 1933 *Advocate:* "The dam constructed by Terry raised the water and made quite a lake in the valley on the north side of town. This created an unsanitary condition which threatened the health of the newly established county seat and as a consequence the dam was torn out by the order of the military powers in control of the garrison of soldiers located at Greenville."

Besides backing up waters, early dams seemed to have a problem of not enough water to power the mills. One early mill only had power enough to crack corn when it rained very hard.

With the exception of such mills on the more voluminous Greenville Creek such as Weimer's and Bear's mills, many gave way to steam mills after the Civil War. They burned cords of firewood to supply power to run their saw and grist mills. Electricity came in the 1930's, but still some of the more successful water mills remained as symbols of the earlier pioneer times.

Many of the county farmers traveled outside local areas for their mill work. They went to Adams mill on Greenville Creek, Frazier's stone mill six mile down Twin Creek in Preble County. They traveled to Paris on the Whitewater and the Stillwater and other mills on the Whitewater. Some in earlier times had to travel as far as Dayton, Cincinnati, and Covington for mill work.

One early picture painted by two old pioneers of Palestine, Col. and Mrs. David Putnam, for the 1933 *Advocate;* "There were only four grist mills in the county and none of them could grind over 25 bushels of crop a day. These mills were nearly always 'out of fix' and farmers had to grate their corn themselves on sheet iron rasps; that is, on a piece of sheet iron that was punched full of holes and made rough on one side."

The 1880 *History of Darke County* shares this insight on the mills in 1824, from pages 280-281:

"In that year, there were four grist-mills in the county, all of which, together might have ground one hundred bushels of corn per day, if the conditions were favorable, that is, if there was water in the streams, the dam unbroken and the mill machinery in order. Much of the time, the settlers resorted to the mills of Jerry Cass, on Middle Fork; Sheets and Razor, on the Stillwater; Lehman's at Rowdy, and to those more certain, yet more distant upon the Miami River.

"There were also eight or ten saw-mills that, for three months in the year, could cut from 500 to 1,000 feet of lumber in a day and night's run, provided something was not broken or out of order; for it was the exception and not the rule to find them in running condition. In one branch of business, the county has retrograded. There were then a dozen or less of petty distilleries, whose untied product fell far short of quenching the thirst of the people, and additional supplies were drawn from the establishments of McGrew, on Whitewater, and Sheets, Razor's and Robnock, on Stillwater. Those of Lehman and Rench were passed by, as the local demand left no surplus...

"T. Snell and J. Huffman coopered kegs for the products of the stills, and manufactured well buckets, kraut tubs and other vessels needed by the settlers."

Some new mills were added by 1840 as page 289 of the 1880 *History of Darke County* informs us:

"In 1840, Briggs' mill, two miles below town (Greenville), Deans, three; Coles, five miles above on the creek, and Clapp's, six or seven miles west of town, afforded accommodations, but, at the same time, they were regarded as but a shade above refined corn-crackers!

"Otwell's mill, nine miles southwest of Greenville on Mud Creek, was originally one of the same sort, but it had changed hands several times, and with each change had received repairs that made it, perhaps, the best mill in Darke County.

"This and a new steam mill started in the vicinity of Palestine by a man named Cloyd, did most of the wheat grinding, but when a drought came, as was the case most every fall, the whole country had to go to Stillwater, a

distance of some twenty or twenty-five miles. Fortunately, at such times the roads were dry and solid; teams could haul good loads without interruption. At any other season, except when the ground was frozen, the roads were so intolerably bad that teams could scarcely pass with empty wagons. In the summer of 1833, Patterson had on a load of five barrels of flour drawn by three stout horses and all were mired in a 'slouth'.

"Steam had not come into use, except in the single instance above mentioned. Many predicted that would be a failure, there existed such a prejudice against steam as a propelling power. It was generally believed the water was the only force that could be profitably used in running any kind of machinery."

From the 1933 Advocate: "In these days of good roads and rapid transportation it is almost impossible to imagine the difficulties encountered by the pioneers in securing flour and meal for their daily bread. The first settlers were compelled to go to the older communities in Preble County or the Miami Valley on horseback along the old trails or newly opened mud roads in order to supply their wants. It was an ordinary experience to travel thirty or forty miles to mill, seated on top of a two bushel sack of corn thrown across a horses' back. On such a journey the horseman would ride thru an almost unbroken forest and probably pass not over half a dozen clearings, spending two or three days on the trip. It is not strange then that mills were erected at convenient sites on the little streams as fast as the settlement of the county would justify. It does not now seem possible but the following mills 'sprang up' within a few miles of Greenville in a comparatively few years: Dean's Mill (Weimer's), Adam's Mill (Cromer's), Noffsinger's, and Otwell's a short distance above; Brigg's (Knouff's), Fox, Clapp's (McClure's)."

"Dean's mill (now Weimer's) three and a half miles above town about 1813; Adam's mill (now Cromer's) about four miles below town, a few years later; Noffsinger's, on Mud Creek near Weaver's Station, and Otwell's, a short distance above; Brigg's (Now Knouff's) on Greenville Creek about a mile and a half east of town in 1825 or 26; the Fox mill on West Branch at the crossing of the Winchester road; Clapp's (McClure's) on Crout Creek. John C. Potter erected a substantial mill on Greenville Creek a mile and a half west of town which was operated for many years by Odlin Spiece and in more recent years by Rush and finally by Chas. Weaver. A substantial mill was also erected at Webster, one at Gettysburg, one at Ithaca, and one at Palestine. A census taken in 1880 revealed 21 grist mills still in operation. The dredging of creeks and the discontinuance of the use of water power put many of these mills out of commission, while some have been remodeled and have installed the steam roller process. Saw mills and tanneries sprang up like mushrooms and prospered for almost half a century until the virgin forests had been cut off or were left like islands in the vast sea of open fields and meadows."

The map shows the location of the mills as best we can locate them in the area. Histories of each also follows.

Noftsinger Grist-Mill

The 1880 *History of Darke County* (Neave Twp.) informs us that Andrew Noftsinger came to Darke County in 1810. "Sometime about 1817, he built a grist-mill on Mud Creek, below the outlet of the lake, where later stood the mill of Dr. Otwell. In the order of construction, this was the third mill built in the county."

Greenville Advocate's March 11, 1950 edition informs, "About 1817 Andrew Noftsinger, an enterprising pioneer farmer, built a mill on the creek bend just south of town (Weaver's Station), which he operated several years but came into possession of Dr. Curtis Otwell, in the fall of 1840, and was remodeled and operated successfully by him for thirty years when it came into ownership of the Kunkle family and was operated several years longer."

Page 289 of the 1880 *History of Darke County* provides the following information on the mill: "...Somewhat later, Andrew Noftsinger put up a grist-mill on Mud Creek, below the outlet of the lake, on the later site of Otwell's Mills. The bolting here was done by hand, and could not supply the demands of the people. Wheat had to be taken to the mouth of Greenville Creek, to Milton, or to Whitewater to be ground. In dry times the grist was left, and at a specified time it was promised to be ground, and the farmer went back for it, and, in the bad condition of roads, this made a two days' trip.

"Otwell's mill, nine miles southwest of Greenville, on Mud Creek, was originally one of the same sort (regarded as but a shade above refined corn-crackers), but it had changed hands several times, and with each change had received repairs that made it, perhaps, the best mill in Darke County."

Anita Short has pieced together the following history of the mill from her research into the deed records: "The mill was later known at various times as the Mount Pleasant Mill, Otwell Mills, and Kunkle's Mill. A little more is known about the actual operation of the mill located in the SE ¼ of sec. 29, Neave Township, near the present site of Weaver's Station. Erected sometime around the year 1819 by Andrew Noffsinger, who in 1822 sold the mill to Joseph Noffsinger for $5,000, a very considerable sum for that period. Joseph Noffsinger was plagued by financial difficulties, becoming indebted to Ernestus Putman and by 1830 selling his entire interest in the mill to Putman, clearing only $1200. Putman in 1837 sold the mill to Samuel Palty, but held a note on the property.

"Soon after in 1839, Samuel Palty sold to his brother, Mack Palty, with Putman again holding the mortgage and very soon a second mortgage was held by Josiah Hutchins.

"Again the mill was in financial trouble and Mark Palty contracted to sell it to Curtis Otwell for $4,000, but this amount was not enough to satisfy the creditors. It was sold at Sheriff's sale in 1842 to Putman, the largest mortgage problems with his mortgage finally being held by William E. White of Cincinnati.

"Otwell was a man of numerous interests including the practice of medicine. He first rented the mill to W.H. Holmes, who under agreement with Otwell, made some improvements on its condition of repair, but left in 1845. Earlier in this same year, Otwell had sold a half interest to Richard Lucas with the attached condition that Lucas assume paying the remaining amount on the White mortgage, which Lucas accomplished by July, 1845.

"During the summer of 1845 the mill was shut down and extensive repairs were undertaken with Lucas doing the work and $800 being the cost of materials. By late May of 1846 the repairs were finished and the mill was restarted on

June 10th, at which time a man named Nathan or Wade Baker rented the mill for a year, but becoming dissatisfied left the position before the time was up. Lucas having been taught milling, took over the mill but died in Cincinnati in May of 1847. After Lucas' death, John and Jacob Neiswonger ran the mill until July, when James R. Calderwood, having purchased a part of Dr. Otwell's interest, took over until 1848 when by consent of all parties, the mill was rented to George Don(en?) in 1872 Calderwood sold his interest back to Otwell who immediately sold all his interest to Isaac Kunkle who maintained ownership for 20 years until 1895 when the Mill was sold to S.B. McCabe."

Noftsinger Block-House

From 1880 *History of Darke County* (Neave Twp.), "Peter Weaver came from Butler County, Ohio, to this township in 1819; here purchased land, cleared him a farm, and year after year has found him living upon it, till 1880. He built the first house in Weaver's Station, named after him, and since grown into a thriving little town. On his first arrival, he found here a block-house, situated about one-fourth of a mile north of where Mount Zion Church now stands. This rude pioneer fort was built by Mr. Noftsinger, of whom we have spoken. It is claimed by some that this same man built the first cabin in the county. It was located on Mud Creek, about one-half mile south of Mr. Weaver's cabin, as early as 1816. Its structure was unique and commensurate with the ability of the builders. It consisted of forks set in the ground, upon which poles were placed, and covered with clapboards."

"The War of 1812 was basically Ohio's, for had we lost to the British Ohio would have been a part of Canada, and the Ohio River would have been America's northern border. Many of the settlers were Revolutionary soldiers who accepted land here in lieu of long overdue wages. Our locality was a part of the Fort Greenville Treaty between the Indians and U.S. settlers, but the English were disgruntled at losing so much valuable land, and the Indians were realizing that they had lost their best hunting grounds, and war resulted. For Greenville was reactivated, but it was too far away from the settlers to the West, so they erected a blockhouse on a hill a few rods south of what is now Route 36, on the eastern edge of the present Weaver's Station Road. When the Shawnees staged a raid this became a haven for those families who lived nearby. Unfortunately the spring which furnished water for the fortification was at the foot of the hill, and a long siege posed real problems.

"Some months before this story begins, a sick Shawnee warrior stumbled to the door of the Norftsinger cabin, and was taken inside and nursed back to health by Mrs. Norftsinger and her two daughters. Thereafter their cabin seemed immune to Indian attack, but when an especially bloody raid was headed that way they felt that they couldn't press their luck, so they joined their neighbors at the blockhouse, which was soon surrounded by hostile Indians. After two days the water supply ran low, and things looked grim.

"The two Norftsinger daughters approached the man who was acting as captain of the defense. 'You can't spare two or three men to go after water, and they would be killed before they reached the spring. Our family has never been attacked, and if anybody can get down there and come back safely, we can. It's us or nobody, may we go?' At first he refused flatly, but they insisted, and finally he handed each girl to large wooden pails, let them out by the small door of the stockade, and told everybody to pray. The girls didn't loiter, they reached the spring unmolested and filled their buckets, then went uphill as speedily as their heavy burdens permitted. Only then did they give way to nerves, but they declared they'd do it again if necessary.

"The next morning no bullets or arrows menaced the blockhouse, and inspection proved that the Indians had left during the night. Some months later, after the Battle of Tippecanoe, the Indians and Whites gathered again at Fort Greenville to sign a second treaty. One warrior approached Mr. Norftsinger and told him that he had been hidden in the cattails around the spring when the girls came with their buckets. 'I could have touched the ankle of Elizabeth, but she had proven a friend to me, so your daughters were safe. An Indian does not forget a debt.'

"This story was related to my father and I by his grandmother, Anna Stephens Woods about 1909, as we jogged toward Greenville, from her home in Palestine. She died in 1918 at age 96. How many of you remember her?" (Submitted by Mary Flo Dickey)

Joshua Mitten Mill

The history of this mill is quite interesting. Fraser Wilson provides the following history on the mill in the March 25, 1950 *Advocate:*

"The first water-power saw mill erected in Liberty (German) Township is credited to one Joshua Mitten, who put up a crude building on the West Branch in section 24, in 1820. Some years later a corn-cracker was attached making it also the first grist-mill in the township. It is claimed that the first village site was in the northwest quarter of the same section laid out at the insistance of Nathaniel Ross, probably on the same site as the mill, as it boasted of both a saw-mill and a grist-mill, a grocery and a store. The town was given the ambitious name of New London City, with its very ambitious prospects. . . . Sad to relate, a verile, rival town sprang up across the fertile valley about a mile to the west with the sacred name of Palestine and soon replaced ambitious London City, which became a ghost town of tradition."

The 1880 *History of Darke County* gives this information: "Some years after this (1820) mill had been built, an apparatus for cracking corn was attached to it, and this was noted as the pioneer grist-mill of the township. She served to supply the few scattered inhabitants with cracked corn, which, at the time, largely took the place of wheat flour."

Apparently Abraham Puterbaugh took over the mill as these excerpts from page 88 of Anita Short's Civil Court Abstracts would indicate:

February 11, 1827 - "John (mark) Weaver and Fanny (mark) wife of DCO to Abraham Puterbaugh of DCO, $500; Tract 1, being 12½ a NW cor S½ NW¼ S24 T 11 R1, lines — West Branch of Greenville Creek, Division line between Henry Ross and Nathaniel Ross, with privileges of raising a dam on land where Nathaniel Ross now lives, one foot above bank and keeping a mill race on said place; tract 2 being 3 a & 40 perches N½ S24 T11 R1 with privilege of extending the tail race on a straight direction through land of Henry Ross with Puterbaugh to make, keep & repair fence to keep out hogs and other creatures. Wit. Benjamin

Eaker, Arch'd Bryson Recorded February 8, 1832" (98-D-1)

Common Pleas Court records from books B-1 pages 376 and 395 indicate some early problems of Abraham Puderbaugh in a suit he brought against Henry Ross for damming up the West Branch to back up the water into his mill race thus damaging the waterwheel and works. This interruption of his mill was in april 1828.

April 17, 1832, page 92, "Nathaniel Ross and Charlotte (mark) wife of DCO to Abraham Puterbaugh $100 8 perches part S½ NW¼ S24 T11 R1 lines near corner of Abraham Puterbaugh's Saw Mill. Witness Benjamin Eakins, Susannah Eakins recorded May 24, 1832." (137-D-1).

"Again the mill was in financial trouble and Mark Palty contracted to sell it to Curtis Otwell for $4,000, but this amount was not enough to satisfy the creditors. It was sold at Sheriff's sale in 1842 to Putman, the largest mortgage problems with his mortgage finally being held by William E. White of Cincinnati.

"Otwell was a man of numerous interests including the practice of medicine. He first rented the mill to W.H. Holmes, who under agreement with Otwell, made some improvements on its condition of repair, but left in 1845. Earlier in this same year, Otwell had sold a half interest to Richard Lucas with the attached condition that Lucas assume paying the remaining amount on the White mortgage, which Lucas accomplished by July, 1845.

"During the summer of 1845 the mill was shut down and extensive repairs were undertaken with Lucas doing the work and $800 being the cost of materials. By late May of 1846 the repairs were finished and the mill was restarted on June 10th, at which time a man named Nathan or Wade Baker rented the mill for a year, but becoming dissatisfied left the position before the time was up. Lucas having been taught milling, took over the mill but died in Cincinnati in May of 1847. After Lucas' death, John and Jacob Neiswonger ran the mill until July, when James R. Calderwood, having purchased a part of Dr. Otwell's interest, took over until 1848 when by consent of all parties, the mill was rented to George Don(en?) in 1872 Calderwood sold his interest back to Otwell who immediately sold all his interest to Isaac Kunkle who maintained ownership for 20 years until 1895 when the Mill was sold to S.B. McCabe."

Mitten/Puterbaugh mill stone

Jess Ross had the buhr stone from this mill. Frank Baker tells that his great grandmother took grist NW of Palestine. If he meant that Palestine was NW of the mill, then the Mitten Mill probably was where his great grandmother went. She went on horseback, the bag fell off, she got off horse, led horse and bag of corn to log to remount, went to mill, got grist, when she came back a panther had smelled where she'd been around the log, and clawed the bark.

Noting the mill was referred to as Abraham Puterbaugh's saw mill in 1832, then the corn-cracker was apparently not attached until near the time of the establishment of London City or after the 1833 establishment date, yet the mill still referred to as first grist mill in township, thus for certain, the German Twp. residents must have gone to nearby mills at Clapp's and Noftsinger's and possibly the McIntosh and Harlan Mill or probably even further. Therefore it is important for German Twp. history to include the histories of some of these neighboring mills.

John Puterbaugh Oxen Mill

The 1880 *History of Darke County* has this in the Neave Township section: "In 1819, John Puterbaugh built a mill, whose motive power was found in oxen. It stood about two and a half miles southeast of Mr. Weaver's land. This improvement dispensed with water-power, and motion was communicated to the buhrs by cog-wheel connection with an upright shaft, which was turned by attaching oxen to transverse levers, passing through it."

Page 289 of Beers 1880 History gives this information on the mill: "The next improvement was a horse-mill, put up by John Puderbaugh, on the east side of West Branch Prairie. This mill afforded fair facilities for grinding in winter while other mills were frozen up. Two neighbors, going together, set out before day with harnessed horses and a sack of corn on each horse. If, on reaching the mill, it was found to be thronged, a neighborly feeling was shown. Each got part of his grist ground, but there was no meal left to require a return, for the old miller had thriftily connected with the mill a small copper still, which turned out a very desirable quality of whiskey which was always readily exchangeable for corn."

John Puterbaugh Copper Still

The 1880 *History of Darke County* provides this insight on one of German Townships early stills: "In order to supply another and urgent demand, a copper still was erected on Section 36, by John Puterbaugh. Its capacity was not very great, and for its influence, value and success, we cannot speak."

John Puterbaugh Cheese Factory

Also from the 1880 history book, "A cheese factory was soon started at the same place, (copper still above, section 36 German Twp.) and by the same person, the Mr. Puterbaugh above named."

Interestingly, Clark's Station School earlier went by the name of Cheeses School, and Clark Station went by Cheesetown.

Cloyd Steam Grist Mill

The 1880 *History of Darke County* mentions this mill in a summary of 1840 mills in Darke County. "This and a new steam mill started in the vicinity of Palestine by a man named Cloyd, did most of the wheat grinding . . ." "Steam had not come into use, except in the single instance above men-

tioned. Many predicted that would be a failure, there existed such a prejudice against steam as a propelling power. It was generally believed that water was the only force that could be profitably used in running any kind of machinery."

The 1857 plat shows a grist mill, quite probably the one referred to here, in section 26 of German township. It is near the West Branch where an old road used to cross the creek. Both an A. Cloyd and a J. Cloyd live near by.

Palestine Flouring Mill

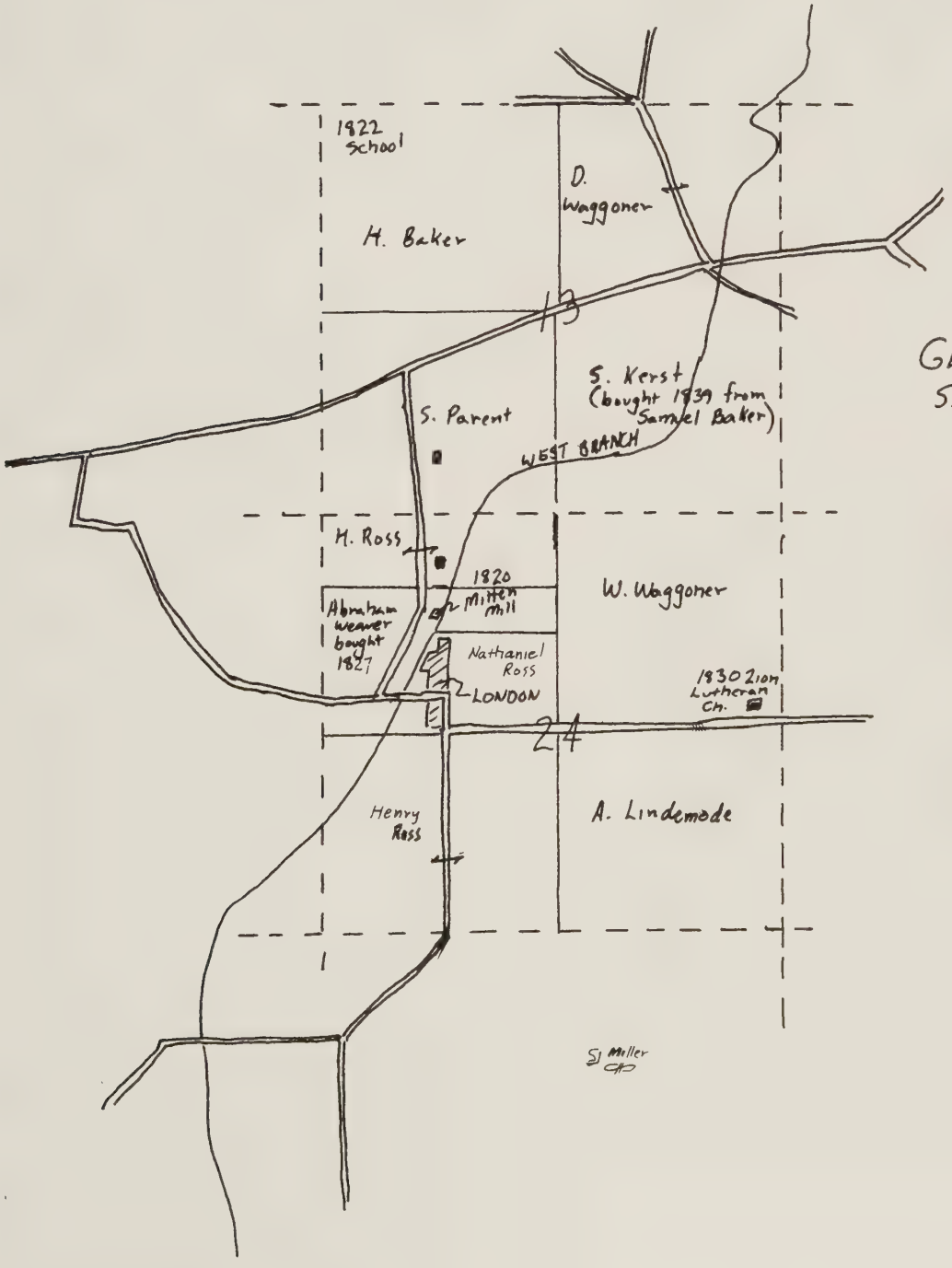
The first indication of this mill is when the 1857 plat lists the steam grist mill under the name of J.G. Norris & Company. Abstracts of the original Norris ledger books dating back to 1858 follow.

The 1900 *Biographical History of Darke County,* page 256, says of James McCabe, "In 1863 he sold that place (Weaver farm section 11, German Twp.) and moved to Palestine, where he bought a half interest in a mill, but sold out in 1871. He next formed a partnership with Mr. Kester and bought a saw-mill, which they conducted together until 1874, since which time Mr. McCabe has operated it alone and has met with good success in this venture."

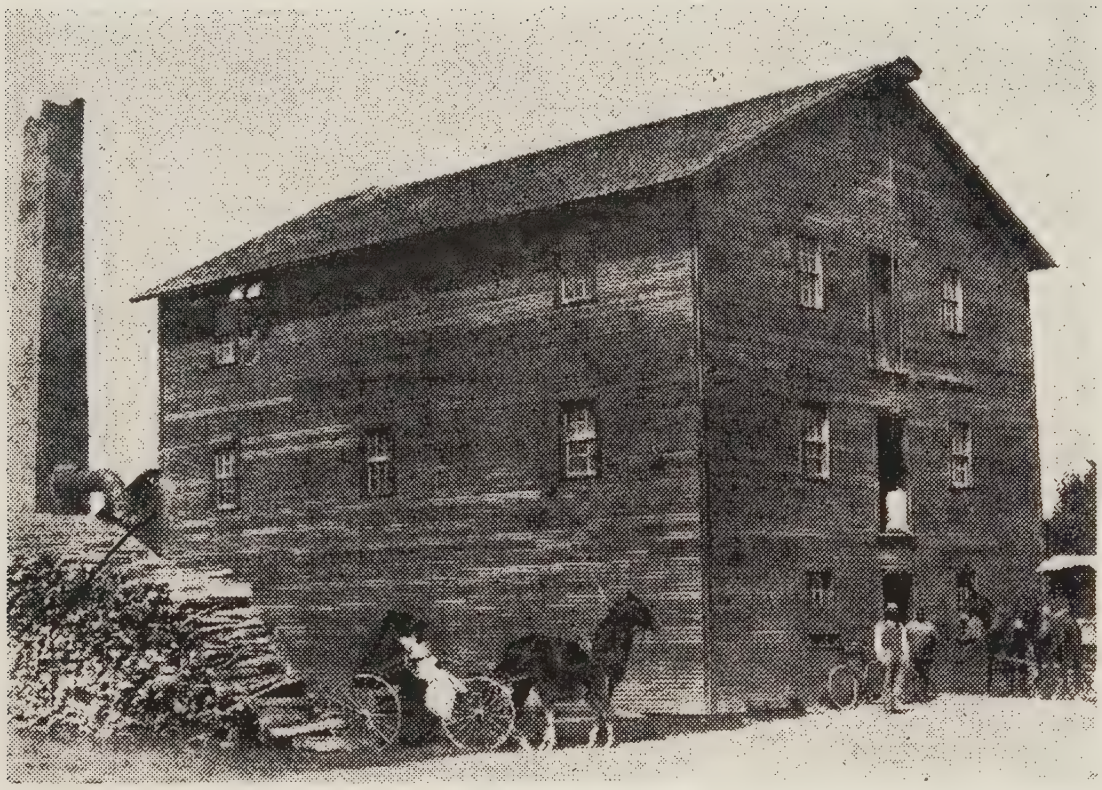
The 1880 *History of Darke County,* page 580, offers, "After his marriage located in Palestine, and for a time engaged in teaching and farming; he then purchased the Palestine Flouring-mill, to which he attached a saw-mill in about five years; he disposed of this property soon after this, and, with Mr. Kester, purchased and erected in Palestine a large saw-mill, which he still runs, having some time ago purchased Kester's interest in it."

Ira McClure "remained at home until the year 1869, when he purchased the flouring-mill at Palestine, which he has since been successfully managing; he has in the mean time bought and sold grain to some extent . . ." (1880 *History of Darke County,* page 581)

"At present, a large steam flouring-mill run by Ira Mc-



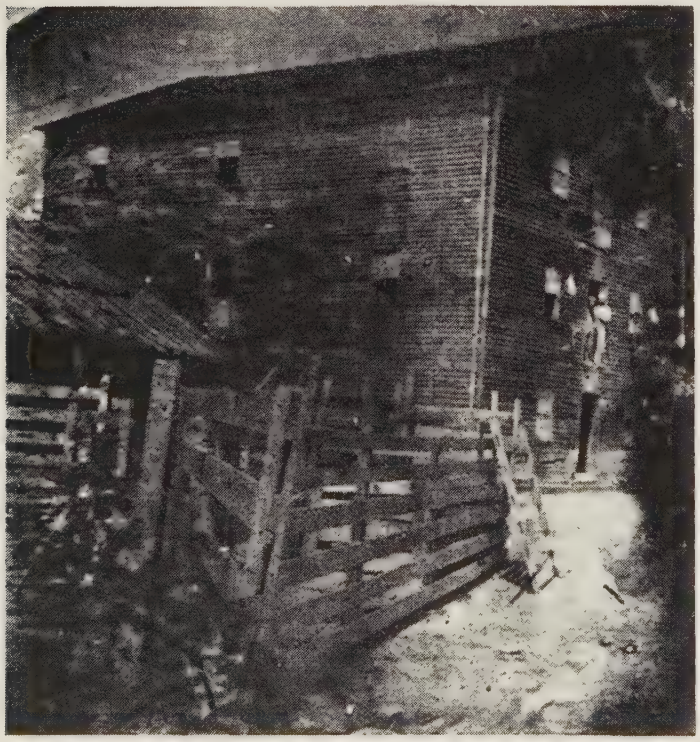
EARLY GERMAN TOWNSHIP SECTIONS 13 & 24 CHD



Palestine Flouring Mill - power for this mill was produced from a steam generator using cord wood for fuel.

Clure, and a large saw-mill owned by James McCabe, in Palestine furnish the necessary supply in this direction in the township." (1880 *History of Darke County*)

"Later we find it operated by the Spitler family, Robert Davison, and finally by Cyrus Cable and son, until it burned down in 1900 and was not rebuilt." ("Greenville Advocate" Fraser Wilson article April 22, 1950)



Palestine Flouring Mill from old tintype.

Frank Baker recalls going to Palestine with his dad to the grist mill where the steam was fired by corn cobs and the sacks of grain were lifted to the third story by a rope and pulley that overhung the doors.

Omar Dill remembers seeing the fire from his home. There was a fire bucket brigade then. The mill had just put in a supply of coal, and the pile had caught fire. Shortly after the fire, the fire department bought their first chemical outfit.

Damon Aukerman and Cyrus Cable owned the mill at the time it burned down.

Old Palestine Mill Books

J.G. Norris' old ledgers were found by Ben T. Miller in his Palestine attic several years ago. The book, now in the care of Kenny Ketring, provides some historic pages for the Palestine mill from 1858 to 1865.

On the inside front covers of the leather-bound journal, in old sepia ink and hand-written script, is written "Prairie City Mills" and "J.G. Norris & R. Leslie Book". While John Norris and Reuben Leslie may have been in partnership earlier, their partnership probably ended February 6, 1860, when page 113 of the book records their "settlement in full".

For awhile in 1861, Norris probably was in partnership with W.T. Harrison as the top of page 193 is inscribed "Norris & Harrison Book". "The End of N & H. Book" is at the top of page 219. Norris may also have had a partnership with A. Dickey in 1860 (pp. 336, 337).

It is not known how early Norris' connection with the mill began, but it did preceed this book, as the 1857 plat lists the mill as J.G. Norris & Co. S.G.M. (steam grist mill).

Jon H. Bowers worked as miller in mill until May 1, 1860.

Earliest records - The earliest records for the Norris Mill are from one of the Norris ledgers. In these records Norris buys and sells wool, wheat seed and flax.

The accounts of wool and wheat seed sold are listed for the year 1853. The seed sold from 85¢ to $1.00 a bushel, while the wool sold for 35¢ to 40¢.

Those listed selling wool are W.W. Kester, A.J. Sparkes, John Clear, David Clear, Abraham Weaver, Wm. Reed, Jonathan Teford, Samuel Crumrine, Elis. McIntosh, Samuel Ingle, Jacob Sink, Lud. Clapp, George Eakins, John Coble, C. Rogers, Hanah Coble, and Andrew Cloyd.

The wheat was purchased from James Cloyd, Cor Rogers, Aaron Smook, Henry Burkebile, James Willcox Sr. & steem mill, James Willcox Jr., James Cloyd Jr., Hemp Albright, I.L. Mills, Stephen Cloyd, Mar Peirsin, Milton Rush, Jos Hart, John Goucher, Loyd Brown (One load delivered at Greenville), Wm. Robison, Samuel Huntsinger, Samuel Crumrine, Andrew Cloyd, John Morris, John Frank.

The ledger for 1854 indicates Norris marketed several hundred bushel of flax seed to Thomas Parrott & Son of Dayton (according to R.R. receipts).

Mill Gleanings - The early records show the services of the mill. The book begins recording transactions in 1858 with Abraham Dickey, the town tanner. Dickey's account included flour, corn meal, feed, shipstuf, shorts, chop, and brand (bran). The shipstuff was apparently screenings or some portion of the grain not usable for the flour or meal. Shorts is defined by an old dictionary as "the bran and coarse part of meal, in mixture".

Chop must refer to a service provided for grains, as in 1861, James McKhann bought ofal, grinding, ship &c, flour, shipstuf, and also had 670 lbs. or rye chopped.

Grinding, then, was another service. In December 1858, Samuel Parent Jr. had grinding done at the mill.
J.G. Norris bought barrels and oful. Oful probably meant offal, or refuse.

William Crandel, page 152, bought scren (screenings) and shorts.

Payment - While cash was sometimes used for payment, often, the patron would pay his or her account in other ways:

In 1858, Thomas Stapelton used wood to pay for flour, shorts, and chop.

Michael Lindamott paid for $13.00 of his 1858 bill for feed and shorts by thrashing wheat.

Reuben Leslie paid part of his 1858 account with oil.

November 1859, J.B. Perdue paid for his flour account with tallow, beef, and cash.

Marshal Burden bought corn meal in 1859, paying for it with wood and chopping wood.

Moses Woods paid for 1859 shorts, brand, and feed with 1 bu. wheat.

Harrod Mills paid for shorts by hauling.

Joel Burden paid for his meal and flour by loads of wood and chopping wood.

James McCabe bought barley March 1859, and paid some of this account by hauling.

Constine McCowen paid an account on meal, flour, and cash by work, and chopping wood.

William Myers, a cooper, paid for $12.60 of flour, April 1859 by barrels. Daniel Ridenour paid for his account with lard oil and a barrel. Johnny McNeal paid for $25.70 worth of mill produce by "cooper stuff" 1860 Jan. 1859, William Heck paid for rye with wheat. Thomas Brown also used wheat to pay some of his 1859 account.

Prices - In 1859 Robert Scott pays 75¢ for 1 bu. meal, 47¢ for 17 lbs. flour, $1.51 for 1 bu. C. meal, and also $1.25 for ax at Reeds.

Pages 62 and 63 lists the shipments of flour made by the mill from 1858 to 1861. The shippers was variously listed as J.G. Norris & Co., Norris & Dickey, J. Norris, and A. Dickey. The embarcation was usually from Greenville with two exceptions when from Union City. The various consignees included E.H. Brownell & Co. Dayton, Smith & Putman Cleveland, J.G. Putman Cleveland, Foulds & Campbell Cincinnati, Thos. Parrott Dayton, A.H. Ogden & Co. Cincinnati, J.F. Roper Arcanum, Jon. Powell Dayton, and C.S. Decker Dayton.

From 1861 to 1864, the mill sold much of its produce to P. Odlin & Co. as indicated on page 188 of the ledger.

1861: 82 3/60 bus wheat and 46 bus wheat at 80¢ bus.

1862: 107 25/ bus wheat at 95¢ 16 22/ bus barley $1.15; 15 37/ rye at 50¢; 1880 lbs ship at 75¢; 18 bbls flour at 5.00; 2957 13/ bus wheat at 95¢; 49 42/ bus wheat 90¢.

1863: 25 10/56 bus corn at 45¢; 12 Bbls flour at 5.50.

1864: 23 Bbls flour, 5 2/56 bus rye; 10 16/48 bus barley.

Page 234 shows that T.C. Katzenberger & Bro made several purchases in 1863 for the Greenville Brewery, including 1190 lbs ship, 673 lbs meal, c. meal, and headings.

Names in the Account Book - The names with accounts at the mill include Abraham Dickey, Elijah Reeder, Reuban Leslie, Martin Ketring, Abraham Black, William Scott, Gob Weaver, Andrew Flatter, Charles Willcox, Samuel Parent Jr., Samuel Parent Sen, Manlius Willcox, Hiram Allen, W.V.R. Tooker, Joseph Mickle, David Willcox, Miss Elis Clapp, Mark Spencer, Lucinda Stokes, N.M. Argerbright, Levi Ampy, Reuban Bartow, James Whiteman, Ediza Knight, W.M. Morningstar, Daniel Wagoner Sr., James Willcox, William Wagoner, W.M. Woods, Samuel Sullivan, O. Harreld, Martha Willcox, J.G. Norris, David Putman, James McCabe, John W. Brooks, Joseph Shepard, P.H. Larsh, James A. Davis, Eli Smelker, Levi Shaffer, Thomas J. Rollins, John Epps, George Kester, Deliah Dorman, Benjamin Eakins Jr., Eason Sparkes, G.W. Larsh, George McClure, D.P. Bowman, Andrew Crowell, Jacob Flatter, Andrew W. Crowell, David Puterbaugh, Jacob Clapp, Peter Kimber, Sarah Fox, Daniel Coapstick, Aaron Smock, Rebecca Balard, S.M. Larsh, Charles Mason, Joseph Shepard, David Mason, Squire Dickey, Joseph Shaw, John Coapstick, Daniel Kester, Sim Neal, A.S. Clemons, Mason Smith, Solomon Kester, George W. Humpfries, Joseph Bowers, Enoch Ross, Joseph Shepard, David Ketring Jr., N.B. Larsh, S.S. Thomas, Miss Ami Smelker, I.D. Parent, J.B. Teford, Samuel Puterbaugh, S.J.F. Gayer, J.G. Ross, J. & G. Keck, Joseph Shaw, Anthony Gray, Samuel Coopstick, Loyd Brown, Smith & Putman, Boone Mitten, Thomas Stapelton, Racheal Dickey, J. & D. Willcox, J.W. Gier, Solomon Darkess, John Collins, Nathaniel Koons, James Welch, Allen Cloyd, George Koons, Robert Stewert, Rus Brown, J.E.C. Woodmansee, Spencer Biddle, Martin Stowers, J.G. Ross, Abraham Dickey, John Holland, John

Okey, Jacob Leslie, William McCowen, Sarah Archey, Cornelia Crocker, John Shoffer, Josiah Harter, Samuel Biddel, Fred Aukerman, Fred Aukerman Jr., Jonathan Lindamott, J.N. Davis, Eve Willcox, Hiram Allen, George Tucker, Mrs. Sater, Jarret Mutchner, Jane Dickey, Michael Lindamoot, Henry Warner, Henry Alnright, Solomon Kester, Charles Helms, J.B. Perdue, Marshall Burden, Fred May, Solomon Darkess, Howard Batton, John E. Hammond, Henry Bamfil, J.D. Jefferis, I.Q. Sinks, John J. Shepard, Samuel Frank, Robert Scott, James Harding, H.L. Hill, William Crandell, Henderson Brooks, Jackson Clemons, James Clemons, Michael Zeek, Martin Rupe, John W. Bowers, Jacob Miller, Silas Burden Jr., Benjamin Barckingham, J.E.S. Brown, Phillip Hulloy, Constine McCowen, Wilson Smith, W.M. Woods, Wm. Willcox, E. Reeder, Sam. Harding, Martha Harding, John Burden, Larkin Archey, Mary McCambell, Joel Burden, Ami Turney, John Bolinger, Thomas Brown, W.C. Porterfield, Mrs. J.W. Shively, Harrod Mills, Elisabeth Aukerman, James McCabe, William M. Argerbright Hiram Allen, William Myers (Cooper), Mr. Sharp, Adam Troutwine, H.L. Buff, Asberry Robbins, Griffin Butler, B. Teford, Sophia Teford, W.H. Smith, Joel Aukerman, E.W. Durant, Joseph Burgess, Rufus Mace, William Crandell, Joshua Cloyd, Aaron Smock, Peter Kimber, S. Dickey, J.W. Gier, William Green, Thomas Brown, Henry Heck, Sarah Fox, Elijah Burgess, Robt. Stewerd, E. Wilt, Willis Phipps, J.W. Brooks, James A. Davis, John Collins, Alvin Brown.

Hiram Allen, J.H. Bowerson, S. Jefferis, W.T. Buff, James Spillman, Samuel Hardin, James Welch, Archabold McCowen, Jacob Clapp, Daniel Wagoner Sr., Levi Ampy, Catharine Biddle, Laoh Studdabaker, George Kester, Abram Black, Jacob Sink, Jar Mutchner, Henry Burgess, James McCabe, Jon. A. Jobes M.D., Micheal Lindamott, G.W. Larsh, Miss Jane Dickey, John Epps, R.S. Ross, Michael Zeeck, William Scott, Mary E. Howsel, William Myers, Lemuel Stokes, Thos. Stapelon, John Warner Jr., Elias Ross, Elisabeth Coopstick, Charles Helms, W.C. Neal, William Crandell, Samuel Sullivan, P.W. Jellison, Joseph Anderson, William Heck, Larken Archey, Jacob Wisner, Perdue (butcher, Hollandsburg) Kenny Hansberger, Abraham Kimmerling, W.H. Harrison, Jes. Woods, A.S. Clemons, Henry Ross, Bart Elem, Robert Mitchel, John Robison, George Teford Jr., Henry Burkebile Jr., Cornelius Rogers, Lewis Burden, Fred Houpt, Emanuel Miller, Henry Clapp, Samuel Housel, J.M. Starbuck, William Wade, William Heck, Jonothan Lindamoot, Curt Coble, James A. Davis, George Knight, G.W. Weaver, A. Darkess, John George Steven, Henry Fox, J.G. Putman of Cleveland, Granny Werts, Milton Jefferis, Johny McNeal, Elisabeth Smock, Joseph Rogers, Jonathan Harden, Harden & Eidson, Micheal Royer, Hiram Ellen, T.F. Chenoweth, John Synard, Benjamin Eakins Sr., J.M. Starbuck, Abraham Black, Malcina Oswalt, Joel Clark, Charles Clemons, James Wright, Noah Stephens, George Miller, Joseph Oswalt, Jon H. Bowers, Daniel Ridenour, Mary Tomy, Henry Burgess, Daniel Hamilton, Owen Lavin, Mrs. M.E. Moore, J.C. Davis, W.M. Argenbright, Racheal Howsel, Jon Smock, W.F. Harrison, Carnelius Reed, William Wilas, W.M. Wilson.

Jes. Leas, Rub. Bartow, Catharine Dickey, Mrs. McCamel, William Smence, James Whiteman, Samuel Harding, Bust Harris, H.W. Fox, Ellen Clapp, J.S. Woodberry, I.W. Jellison, John Sherrick, James Wilcox, Nancy E. Reed, Alvin Brown, Jon A. Jobes, Jacob Root, Jon. Thomas (North), J.W. Brooks, Balser Horn, Darlington Jeffers, Kenny Stokes, Widow Tucker, G.W. Dowler, James McChann, Crist. Fayler, Abraham Slick, Absolem Darkus, Sarah A. Leas, Samuel Kerst, John Kimmerling, Solomon Frank, Mark Spencer, Andrew Allison, J.C. Shepher, Jes. Okey, David Puterbaugh, Charles Kester, George Becker, Clark Spencer.

Cornelius Rogers, Andrew Biddle, Gabe Weaver, Mary Brooks, John Clemons. Henry Beechler, Henry W. Fox, Reuban Leslie, Thos. Vantilberg, William Smith, John Slick, O.H. Long, J.F. Wear, Mat. Shanan, David Vantilberg, J.S. Rosberry, Sof Boomershine, Asberry Robbins, William Lemon, John Thomas Hollansbergh, Thomas Chenoweth, I.N. Beedle Greenville, Thos. Slofer, T.C.C. King, Thomas Rupe, Wiley Lawrence, Peter Kimber, Jacob Sink, William Roland, F.M. Eidson, M. Beechler, David Wade, Abraham Black, A.R. Doty, Joseph Oswalt, Abe Dixion, Tox & McCabe, Eakins & Dickey, Joseph Heck, Larken Archey, W.M. Wilson, William Wolford, Mrs. Jas. Wright, Joel Batton, Denis Hart, Isaac McCowen, Henry Burkebile, Joseph Ketring, Mary Ann Jefferis, Miss Rach Ann McClure, Gordon Cloyd, Hugh L. Hill, William Wilson, Wilkins Moore, Elisabeth Coble, Alexander Dixon Jacob Kertcher, I.M. Stewert, Malinda Cloyd, Joseph Epps, Merodith Patterson, Mrs. E. Cloyd, Mrs. Elisabeth Ann Eewell, George Brooks, Henry J. Stingley, M.M. Petre, V.D. Parent, J.F. Ware, F.M. Eidson, Mrs. Evaline Crandell, William Slick.

Palestine Saw Mill

A saw mill may have been operating on this location at the north edge of Palestine as early as 1840. James Willcox Sr. came from Preble County ". . . to this county, March 18, 1839, and located in German Township, on land he had previously purchased near the present town of Palestine; here he engaged in farming and sawmilling."

James Willcox Jr. ". . . remained in Butler County altogether about three years, and then returned to this county (about 1843), engaging in saw-milling for the next eighteen years continuously and successfully." (source: 1880 *History of Darke County,* pp. 598 & 599).

There is a good possibility that the saw-mill at which the Willcoxes worked was the Palestine saw mill location. The 1857 plat of German Township has a saw mill symbol at this location north of Palestine. The 1857 date would fall in the 1843 to 1861 period James Jr. worked at saw-milling. Also, the 1861 time which James Jr. ceased saw-milling, interestingly preceeded only shortly the Civil War period in which James McCabe added a saw-mill to the Palestine flouring mill. Perhaps McCabe had purchased the saw-milling equipment from the earlier Palestine saw-mill. Indeed, an imaginative scenario would have McCabe keeping the saw-mill equipment after selling the flouring-mill, only to re-install the equipment in a rebuilt building on the original Palestine saw-mill site.

Regardless, of these earlier possibilities, James McCabe did indeed sell the flouring mill in 1869, and soon after this date he "with Mr. Kester, purchased and erected in Palestine a large saw-mill, which he still runs (1880), having

Palestine Sawmill

some time ago purchased Kester's interest in it." (source: 1880 *History of Darke County,* p. 580).

Hugh Armstrong came to German township in 1881, and died 1913. During this period the sawmill was on his property.

John Siniard succeeded McCabe as head sawyer for a long time. His son, Bill Siniard, took his place.

Omar Dill worked there awhile off bearing - taking slabs. Omar recalls beer parties in the engine room on occasion.

The low roof was within four or five feet of the ground, and it was a common Halloween occurance for the local kids to dissemble a carriage and reassemble it on top of the roof. Bill Kester's hearse was found atop the roof one Halloween.

The picture was taken 1911. The saw mill probably ran until sometime in the 1920's.

McIntosh & Harlan Mill

"Located in the west half of Sec. 7 on the Middle Fork of the Whitewater in Harrison Twp. this mill was erected between 1824-1829 by John McIntosh. In 1829 when John McIntosh sold a partial interest to Valentine Harlan Sr., the mill was described as 'a grist mill, mill race and mill yard'. In 1835 Jonathon Lambert purchased both McIntosh and Harlan's interests in the mill. How long the mill continued to operate is not known, but in 1859 when Lambert sold the land a description included a reference to 'the old Mill Race and tail race'." (source - *research by Anita Short*)

West Branch Band Saw Mill

There was a saw mill at West Branch with one of the first band saws-it went up and down instead of circular, driven by water wheel. It was discontinued but Frank Baker remembers seeing the mill as a boy. It was located south of 36 on east side of West Branch about ¼ mile from 36.

The only recorded reference to this mill was possibly the March 25, 1950 Greenville Advocate article by Wilson Fraser, "About a mile eastward of this site (either Palestinc or London), just south of where the Baker-Store Palestine road (U.S. 36) crosses the West Branch, the remains of an old mill race and tumble down saw mill could plainly be seen by the grandparents of the rising generation."

Fraser's reference was probably the Band saw, however, there was evidence of a possible mill yet further south of this location at the bend in the West Branch. Keith Bussy had found several rocks at the bend and wondered why they would have been put there. There was also a depression in the ground about 100 yards above the site that could have been a mill pond for that site. Thus the West Branch in this area could have been home of as many as three mills, including the Mitten/Puterbaugh Mill of New London City.

Weaver Station Mills

Besides the Noftsinger mill, the area around Weaver Station had other mills that quite possibly may have served early German Township settlers. The March 11, 1950 Advocate article by Fraser Wilson gives this information, "The region around Weaver's Station was settled at an early date. About half a mile north of the village, Mud Creek separates into three branches - the Western branch running on the eastern side of the Station; the small eastern branch through Fort Jefferson State Park and Wayne Lakes Park, and the middle branch along the right-of-way of the old Mackinaw (N.Y. Central) Railway between the two towns. The western branch afforded some excellent mill sites just below and east of Weaver's town plat."

Of course Noftsinger Mill, built about 1817 just south of Weaver's Station was the first built in this area.

"During this period a wool carding mill was operated by Abraham Dickey, a flouring mill along the Pennsylvania railway and a grist mill by the Hollingers about a quarter of a mile down the creek, just east of town. Dickey also operated a steam saw-mill and a flour mill along the railway north of town, while the DeCamp family ran a flat band-saw-mill on the eastern branch about half a mile to the nor-

theast. Ernestus Putman, the founder of New Madison, also established a small grist mill on one of the Mud Creek branches at an early date."

Hollansburg Saw Mill

The first indication of a mill in Hollansburg comes from a *Greenville Telegraph* newspaper listing for Wednesday, June 4, 1852;

"The subscriber wishes to embark for California, offers for saile, his steam saw mill in Hollandsburg, Darke County, Ohio in which is contained one run of stone for grinding, also a carding machine appended to the same which will be sold separately or attached to the mill as the purchaser may require. A great bargain and liberality of payments will be given in the above property to any person applying in one month. James Boyd".

The 1857 plat shows the steam mill, gives its location, and lists it as the Selt & Thomas Steam saw mill, so Mr. Boyd may very well have made it to California.

By 1875, the ownership has changed to Joseph Bond Jones, who is listed as the proprietor of the steam saw mill, manufacturer and dealer in lumber and logs. Joseph and his family later moved to Union City, where he worked as a carpenter.

The 1888 plat shows the saw mill belonging to F. Armacost.

Hollansburg Sawmill - These may be Burgess, J. Nollingham or Jack Richards, Oran Buckingham, and Lock. The horse team belongs to Idris Lantz's dad who is upstairs throwing down boards.

John Fox log home currently owned by Wysongs.

Flory/Fox Mill

Under the biography of William H. Warner, page 598 of the 1880 *History of Darke County,* the following information on Emanuel Flory Sr. is given: ". . . the 17th of March, 1834, he came with his family to Darke County, locating on Sec. 12 (German Twp.), where Emanuel F. Jr., now resides; some three or four years previous to this he came out and erected a water-power saw-mill, on West Branch, the first in that locality . . . Emanuel F. Jr. was reared on a farm, after coming to this country with his parents, he engaged on his father's saw-mill and farmed for a period of about five years; since then he has lived on a farm, till a few years ago, the homestead which he purchased . . ."

Wilson Fraser wrote in the March 11, 1950 "Greenville Advocate", "About 1841, Mane Flora Sr. erected a saw-mill with a long race on the West Branch where it crosses the Winchester Road some three miles west of Greenville. In later years John Fox, a large landowner in the district, bought the property and added a grist mill which he operated until late in the century."

This mill is indicated in section 31 of Greenville Township on the 1857 map.

New Madison Mills

The December 13, 1933 Advocate states that Ernestus Putnam built the first merchant mill in Darke County here in 1832.

Fraser Wilson gives this information on the New Madison mills in the April 15, 1950 Advocate: Two saw mills and a grist mill were in operation in New Madison, in 1880 and for many years thereafter the Bloom Milling Company did an extensive business until the property was destroyed completely by fire in 1912. There were two thriving flour mills in Arcanum in 1880. These continued to operate for several years until the last surviving property, known as Boyd's Mill, burned down in 1937."

More can be added to the information of the Bloom Mill from T.J. Bloom's biography page 689, of the 1880 History. "He came here in 1868; the business of the mill could then be done in from two to three days' run in each week. In 1875, Mr. Bloom determined on improvement; tore down the old mill and rebuilt it, placing an entire new set of machinery, which included the patent process, and now has a capacity to produce forty barrels of flour and grind 150 bushels of corn in a twelve-hour run and is prepared, both by experience and improved methods, to produce the very best of flour; he is doing both a custom and merchant business, and such is the reputation of his flour, that he sells all of it on orders, thus saving the expense and risk of consignments."

John Clapp Mill

"From different States, the families continued to arrive during the year 1818. There was John Clapp, from Maryland, who settled on Section 34, cleared up his farm, and in 1823, built a mill, hereafter noted. He died here at the age of seventy, in the year 1846." (1880 *History of Darke County,* p. 439)

"The first grist-mill erected within the township was built by John Clapp, in 1923, on the second branch, on what is now known as the Bartow farm. It was a very rude structure, but as good as the times and financial conditions would permit although the greater part of the work on the dam, digging the race, and putting up the house, was done by volunteer work." (1880 *History of Darke County*)

"The first grist mill in Washington Township was erected by John Clapp in 1823 on Crout Creek about a quarter of a mile above Nashville in the southwest quarter of Section 27, on the farm now owned by R.G. Eidson. This mill was a rather small crude structure but suited the needs of the sparsely settled community of men who volunteered to construct the dam, shovel out the mill race and help in the erection of the mill itself. This action was a good demonstration of community enterprise which was common in pioneer days when the able-bodied men of the backwoods settlements helped each other to build their log cabins and barns, as well as put up their small one room log schoolhouses, while the women knitted, held a quilting bee and cooked bountiful meals for the hungry volunteer workers. The settlement of the pioneers in Washington township was one of the earliest and most progressive in the county as shown by the early erection of churches, schools and mills and the interest in public welfare. In order to reach this settlement from Greenville they would cross Greenville Creek at the riffle shortly below the mouth of Mud Creek, follow the northern bank of the creek to about a mile below Coletown, cross to the southern side and proceed westward to the valley of Crout Creek. In later years Greenville Creek was crossed at Tecumseh's Point and the general course of the present Winchester and Nashville roads followed to Crout Creek, approximately on an old Indian Trail." (Wilson Fraser's article in *Greenville Advocate"*)

George McClure may have been involved with this mill later as the following seems to indicate: ". . . Geo. McClure, a native of Pennsylvania, who emigrated to this county in 1836 and located in Washington Township, near Nashville, a place then of considerable note; where he engaged in milling, which he continued eight or ten years; he then disposed of his mill property and purchased what was known as the John Clapp farm, near the same place, and engaged in farming, after controlling this for four years, he sold out and

bought the Chenoweth farm . . ." (1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 581)

The following indenture provides an interesting glimpse back 150 years. This indenture is recorded in Darke County recorder's office, Deed book C-1-435.

"This Indenture witnesseth that John Clapp of Preble County and State of Ohio by and with the consent of Jacob Sorber his Guardian as testified by signing as a witness here unto hath put himself and by these presents doth voluntarily and of his own free will and accord put himself apprentice to David Clapp of the County and State aforesaid Mill Right, to learn his trade and mystery and after the manner of an apprentice to serve him from the day of the date hereof for and during the full end and term of three years or untill he is twenty years of age all which time the apprentice his said Master faithfully serve keep his lawful commands. emy (?) when gladly obey he shall do no damage to his said Master nor see it done by others without letting or giving notice thereof to his said master he shall not waste his said masters goods nor lend them unlawfully to any with his own goods nor the goods of others without license from his said master he shall neither buy nor sell, he shall not absent himself day nor night from his said master's service without his leave nor homit (?) all houses or Taverns, but in all things behave himself as a faithfull ought to do during the said term and the said master shall use the utmost of his endeavors to teach or cause to be taught or instructed the said apprentice in the Trade or mystery of a Mill Right and provide for him sufficient meat drink apparel lodgeing and washing fitting for an apprentice during the said term of three years or untill he is twenty year of age and give him within the said term, nine months schooling, three months is to be in the last year of the said term and when he is free to give him two suits of clothing one whereof is to be entirely new, and such as an apprentice together with one entire set of Bench planes three chissels and one hand axe and one hand saw. The said apprentice is not to be occupied at any other work than that of his trade for the performance of all and singular the covenants and agreements aforesaid the said parties bind themselves each unto the other firmly by these presents in witness whereof the said parites have set their hands and seals dated the 7th day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand and Eight hundred and twenty Nine.

sealed and delivered	his	
in the presence of	John X Clapp	seal
Jacob Sorber	mark	
George Taylor	David Clapp	seal

Note before signing the said Master is to give him leave to work six days in harvest for his own use."

McClure Mill

August 10, 1830, Moses & Mary Crumrine sold to David Clapp "3 a pt N end NW ¼ S22 T12 R1 Wash twp lines with W bank of creek with privilege of stopping water in creek above said land as far as dam made below said land four feet high will stop water in channel of creek." (Darke Co. Ohio Deed Records Deed book C-1-580, *Short & Bowers)*

"Early in 1832 David Clapp began to erect a grist mill on Crout Creek near the center of Washington township, about a quarter of a mile north of the present Township School. A long race was dug and work delayed so that the mill was not fully completed before an exceptionally severe winter set in and froze up the water supply, making it practically impossible to operate until the following spring. Before the grist mill began to run a saw mill was put in operation, and it is significant that by 1880 there were four water and two steam saw mills in operation in this township. In later years the Clapp mill was taken over by John McClure and after being run by water power for several years, the mill was repaired and rebuilt, steam power was installed and the capacity and efficiency of the mill increased to extend its usefulness well into the last half of the nineteenth century." (Early Mills in Darke County - *Greenville Advocate",* Frazer E. Wilson March 1, 1950)

The 1880 *History of Darke County,* page 441, adds this information "Soon after these mills were built (Clapp & Jeremiah Rogers), David Clapp, early in 1832, commenced to build a flouring mill on the second branch. The same fall, a saw-mill was running. The grist-mill began to run in the following year. The race was dug nearly half a mile through the roots of the primitive forest. Samuel Hatter and Joseph Rarick took the job for $100, and they hired William Baldwin, William Dennison, John Dixon and George Young to assist them. These men worked at prices ranging from 2 to 3 shillings per day. Andrew Bickel was also employed. Being considered rather an extra hand, he was paid 43¢ cents per day, the understanding being that he should keep the fact of greater wages to himself. Prior to the erection of this mill, the people here were used to going to a small flouring-mill near Coletown. The year 1832 was marked by a severely cold winter, and the mill froze up. Mr. Bickel tells of working, in company with two others, nearly all day to get the ice cut out, and all the grinding done by night was a half-bushel of cornmeal. This they divided between them, in shares proportioned to the size of the respective families. There are now four water and two steam saw-mills in the township. McClure's Mill is run by water and by steam; it had been repaired and rebuilt, until it is now a first-class flouring mill, and is worthy of the patronage given."

D.W. Mote's memoirs of July 3, 1938 offer these recollections: "This morning I have remembered John McClure. What symbols of kindliness, helpfulness, integrity, McClure's Mills manufactured flour corn meal, lumber. The lumber for our new House was sawed there. We got our flour there - poor stuff now, the best then—meal for our corn mush. Civic center for a thousand citizens. A brick house, a 4 story 'Grist' Mill; a sash saw mill; barns, shops around a 5 acre mill yard. I cut the McClure Dam on 2 (second) Branch with the 4 mile 2 Branch Ditch. But grand kindly Old John McClure was dead then, several years, the property a wreck a ruin value destroyed by newer better bigger mills running full time and supplying many thousands more. New communities possible thru road and drained lands had dimmed the glory importance of McClure's Mills Old John McClure a doddering almost blind man lies now in a forgotten grave."

West Branch Woolen Mill

"Some three miles above the Fox mill and near the mouth of West Branch, John Devor, the original proprietor of Greenville, erected a saw mill after the War of 1812. No doubt this mill was operated until the convenient timber was well cut off and then a steam carding and fulling mill, where wool was combed and woolen stocking yarn and blankets were made, was erected on the site by Benjamin and Jack Devor about 1840. In the late seventies Fox and Bechtold were still operating a woolen mill on this site and getting

large supplies of raw wool through the Warings and other Greenville merchants who took it in exchange for merchandise handled by them." (March 11, 1950, newspaper article, *Fraser E. Wilson*)

"With these backward appliances, there was still another establishment in the shape of a 'carding machine and fulling-mill', located some three miles west of town, on what was then called West Branch, which was owned and run by Benjamin and Jack Devor. This was the only machinery of the kind of the county. Andrew Smith was foreman of the concern and had an apprentice. This mill was valuable aid to the labors of the women, for homespun in 1840 was still the order of the day. It was only on occasions of weddings that people indulged in 'broadcloth and Swiss mull'. After the ceremony, the garments were carefully laid away and held as proud relics of a precious memory. Matron and maid still spun and wove, as had the mothers and aunts of twenty years before. A delicate chintz, held as a reserve for Sunday occasions, was carefully preserved and worn, and if the fair owner chose to walk barefooted to church, a distance of several miles, custom accorded that privilege, provided the feet were dressed during service. To preserve the shoes in good order, they were taken along wrapped in a handerchief, and if the happy gallant could secure the privilege of carrying the parcel, he felt highly honored." (pg. 289, 1880 *History of Darke County*).

"O.S. Culbertson, proprietor of this well-known Woolen Factory, (formerly owned by W. Akin) situate 2½ miles Northwest of Greenville, O., again calls the attention of the public to the fact of his having in his employ the best of workmen, and that his machinery and general facilities for Carding, Spinning, Weaving, Coloring, Fulling, Pressing, Finishing, & c., cannot be excelled anywhere. Prices for roll carding 8 1/3¢ per pound; spinning and reeling, 20¢ per pound.

"He has on hand Jeans, Satinets, Tweeds, Flannels, Stocking Yarn, & c., of his own manufacture which will be exchanged for wool or sold for cash. He has made arrangements with the following firms to take in and deliver work free of extra charges, to-wit: H. & H.N. Arnold, Greenville; Mr. White, Dallas; John Smith, Arcanum; Jesse Leese, Palestine; and at Johnston's Station. O.S. Culbertson, West Branch Woolen Mills." (Greenville newspaper April 20, 1870)

May 3, 1871, John & Lydia Fox sold to Samuel Bechtolt the old Akins mill race and the woolen factory. (Vol. 58-329 *Deed Books*)

From *Democratic Advocate* December 1885. "Tom Culberson has put in the proper machinery at his woolen mill 3 miles west of Greenville and is now prepared to grind feed of all kinds for farmers and others. His specialty is grinding corn and cobs together, which makes a saving of 25% of feed and is more wholesome for stock than clear corn. If you will haul a load of corn to him and wait a short time, you can take your feed back home with you ready for use."

The West Branch Woolen Mill—Some time after the War of 1812, John Devor, the enterprising founder of Greenvile, erected a saw-mill on the West Branch just above its junction with Greenville creek some three miles upstream from the county-seat. About 1830 James and Benjmain Devor erected a fulling mill on the site of their father's saw mill. They later sold the plant to William Akins, who greatly enlarged and improved it by adding a spinning jack and several power looms. Apparently this mill was operated by a foreman and one helper at that period. The mill was shut down for a time but in the seventies we find it being run by Tod Culbertson. Persons having raw wool fleeces to sell would bring them to Warings big store, on the public square opposite the present site of the James Hotel, where Culbertson would later call for them and take them to the mill, card them into rools and return them to the store. The folks would then call for the carded wool, take it home and convert it into yarn for knitting into stockings, mittens and scarfs. In 1880 the mill was being operated by Fox and Bechtolt but was finally discontinued in a few years.

Spring Hill Mill

"One of the important early Washington Township mills was located on the north side of upper Greenville Creek, in the southeast quarter of Section 18, about a mile east of the Indiana line, just north of the Spring Hill Church and Cemetery. This mill must have been erected at an early date and rendered important service to the early settlers as it connected with a mill race with a total length of nearly a half a mile. The marks of this race are still plainly discernable and four millstones still testify of its importance although the memory of its existence has practically faded out of the existing generation. Apparently this old mill was shut down as a grist grinder and a saw mill installed in the building as the County Atlas of 1875 shows it as such." (March 1, 1950 newspaper article, *Fraser E. Wilson*)

Randolph County Mills

"Jessup had a mill on Greenville creek as soon as 1820 or before. Aaron Hill's father, as also a Mr. Hawkins, in the region of Arba, had hominy-pounders, and perhaps corn-crackers, run by horse-power, shortly after the first settlers came. However, Aaron Hill's father came to this county in 1831.

"Jessup had a 'corn-cracker' on Greenville creek, north of Spartanburg before 1820. A grist-mill used to stand on Greenville creek northwest of the Kennon farm in Wayne township. It was there in 1850, but has been gone many years. The timbers are there still.

"The 'corn-crackers', so called (Jessup's on Greenville creek, for instance), used to grind about a peck an hour.

"A steam grist-mill was running for several years at Arba, but it burned down in 1877, and has not been rebuilt. There were two steam saw-mills at Spartanburg. One was built about 1852 by William Luker. The other was built by Wesley Locke about 1880. It had a corn-mill and planing-mill attached. A large steam grist-mill was erected at Union City, Indiana. It was owned by Converse & Company; had a capacity of 200 barrels per day.

"There was for years a saw-mill on the boundary, southwest of Spartanburg. A saw-mill was in operation for twenty years or more near Salem. When Union City began to need lumber for building, that mill, among others, helped much to supply the demand." (*History of Randolph County,* 1914, pg. 213)

"In early times there was a distillery above Arba, south of William Horn's (Spille's). It was owned by Elihu Cammack's uncle, Amos (Cammack), Considerable whiskey was drank at gatherings and as a natural result many got 'groggy' by its use." (*History of Randolph County,* 1914, pg. 931)

Still More Mills and Stills

Besides the large mills, many people in the area set up smaller mills for services of area dwellers. Many such mills, no doubt, left no trace to be recorded here, but we can mention several. We include not only saw mills and grist mills, but other shops through the country side that provide interesting service or business to the public.

Grow Saw Mill - The 1857 plat locates a mill on J. Grow land, NE ¼ of section 3 German township.

Clemens Saw Mill - The 1910 plat locates a mill near the gravel pit in section 5 German township, on the south side of Stingley Road. Maze Clemens recalls that Wesley Clemens ran a sawmill here. It was run with a steam threshing engine but earlier a horse was used to pull logs through the blade

Longtown Balcksmith Shops - Across the road from the Clemens saw mill was a blacksmith shop. A Stokes used to run the blacksmith shop, then later a Patten. As a boy Maze Clemens ran errands for Patten. The Stokes earlier had a blacksmith shop west of the crossroad (Long) on the south side of the road.

Herschel Ross Cider Mill - Herschel Ross operated this mill into the 1920's where Keith Bussy lives now.

Riley Dininger Sugar Camp - This camp was where Car Singer owns on Greenville-Palestine Road. The camp was operated as late as 1932.

David Ross Sugar Camp - David Ross's sugar camp was at J.R. Dininger's farm. It operated circa. 1890-1925.

Savonnah Cane Mill - The mill on the west edge, and south side of Savonnah was operated in the 1920's by Buck Wehrley.

Keener Cane Mill - Dave Keener had a cane mill at his place on the Weaver-Ft. Jefferson Road about 2nd farm from Palestine-Hollansburg Rd. It is located on the 191(plat, and was operated until about 1918.

Cane Mill - There used to be a cane mill at the end of the long lane that goes to the center of section 10 from the Palestine-Union City Road.

Cane Mill - Another old cane mill was located west of the wind pump and down the hill from Kevin Hollinger's.

Glen Karn Saw Mill - This saw mill located on the 191(map.

Still - During the prohibition, 1928 or 1930, there used to be a still on the King farm (borders Runner's farm).

Benninger Shoeshop - Ira Edger thinks Benninger may have been making boots for the Civil War. His shoe shop shows up on the 1875 plat. The building stood until after 1900 then was moved south with the rest of the farm buildings. Benninger made boots until the late eighties or early nintys. The *Atlas of Darke County* business directory offers: "Henry Benninger, manufacturer of boots and shoes. Repairing neatly done. Shop Sec. 24, 2¼ miles S.E Palestine."

George Baker Horse Powered Saw Mill - Frank Baker relates his grandfather George Baker had a horse powered outfit. The outfit was built on a truck concern and pulled to job sites in a seven mile radius around Baker. Four to six horses could be used to power the outfit. The horses were hitched one to a beam and were driven in a circle by a man who stood in the middle on a platform. This horse-powered mill had large iron cog gears that hooked to big heavy rods -tumble rods - that ran out to a jack that ran a big bel

wheel. The belt wheel then powered a buzz saw or cutting benches or feed grinder - whatever needed the power. George lived east of Baker Store and operated in the 1860's and 1870's.

Deeter Ditching & Bee Business - In 1913 Clarence Deeter bought a ditching machine from Charles Garber and Clarence operated until the Great Depression. Clarence then went into the bee business with Earl Alexander from Richmond. Clarence located yards and divided colonies of bees in western Darke County. The hives would be located one or two miles apart. His home and extracting plant was just north of the Palestine District Old German Baptist Brethren Church. Clarence extracted tons and tons of honey over the ten to twelve years before selling his business to daughter Phyllis Miller, who operated for four or five years. In those days, all farmers raised clover, and the honey business flourished. Clarence recalls about 1924 when he helped fill a boxcar for Toronto, Canada with honey at 4½ cents a pound. One crop he packed in 600# drums, while most were packed in five gallon buckets.

Squire Jefferis Sugar Camp - Earl Jefferis recalled his uncle ran this camp around the turn of the century north of Cook Pond. There used to be many maple trees in this area near the intersection of Hillgrove-Southern and Nashville Roads.

Ketring Brick Kiln - Several bricks in and around ground just west of St. John Cemetery have been found where Martin Ketring used to live. Miss Adavier said this was an old brick kiln. In Martin Ketring's will (Will Book A-1-), he wills his "oven and windmill".

Blacksmith Shop - An old blacksmith shop stood on the corner where Ira Edger lived. Ira's dad Charles Edger bought this 20 acres in 1893. The shop had burned, but they constantly found blacksmith shop stuff in their garden. It was possibly run by S. Bowman who lived there on the 1857 and 1875 plats. Joe King now has his machine shop on this farm.

Edger Saw Mill - Charles and his father George Edger had a saw mill in Fred Wagner's woods from 1870 to 1900. Charles moved the large mill to his barn on the corner but before he could get it set up, lightning struck the barn and burned it.

Hollansburg Wagonshops - In 1875 Hollansburg had wagonships on lots 43 and 82. W. Moore was on lot 43. Lot 82 may have been Gibson Peden who was a wagonmaker, and whose son Francis helped him in this trade.

Henry Fahl Stone Mason - Henry Fahl lived near the corner of U.S. 36 and New Madison-Coletown Road before

Squire Jefferis Sugar Camp - Squire with beard, W.A. & Sally (Ross) Jefferis with children Orville and Carman. Mr. Ooten with dipper. Taken about 1897.

and around 1900. He laid the stones for bridge piers on 36, and built the cottage on Bud Wion's place.

Teaford Gravel Pit - M.A. "Del" Teaford had a gravel pit in the 1920's. He hauled gravel out with horses, then later bought a stone grinder and dipping machine.

Laux Sugar Camp - Don Laux tapped sugar trees in the 1950's on his farm.

Stephens Blacksmith Shops - John Stephens "attended the subscription schools conducted in a log school-house with a puncheon floor, and at the age of nineteen commenced serving an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade at Palestine, Ohio, faithfully putting in three years at the forge. Subsequently, he spent a short time in Indiana, and on his return to Darke County located in Neave township, where he engaged in blacksmithing on his own account for three years. In 1853 he located on the farm in Greenville township, where he now resides, and opened a shop upon his place, which he conducted while his farm was mainly cleared and improved by hired help..." (pg. 315, *History of Darke County)*

Nellie (Stephens) Fowble relates that her father, grandfather, and great-grandfather all had blacksmith shops. Great-grandfather David Stephens had a blacksmith shop where the log house used to be on the old road across from Virgil and Nellie's. This log house has been reconstructed by Studabaker in Tipp City.

Grandfather John Stephens had a blacksmith shop located where Anna Maxine's driveway is. The wood from John's shop was used to build a chicken coop, which now serves Virgil for his woodworking shop.

Nellie's father Alva Stephens had a blacksmith shop in Baker Store for 22 years. He lived in the third house west from the intersection on the south side of the road and his shop was east of the intersection on the south side of the road. Al sold the blacksmith shop to Ivan Dalrymple.

Arnett Saw Mill - From about 1911 to about 1925, Joe Arnett's saw mill was located in Palestine on lot 7. Joe's sons Harv and Chester helped saw, and Joe would run the 20 horse Advance steam engine. The saw mill was then moved to another location out of Palestine.

Barnes Mill - The March 11, 1950 "Greenville Advocate" provides this information: "About 1825 or 1830 Jared Barnes erected a grist and saw mill at the bend of Greenville Creek just west of the site of Coletown. This was conveniently located on the Deerfield road (Union City Pike) and in a growing settlement, so that we find Samuel Cole erecting a grist mill here in 1846 which changed hands several times, and still shown on the plat in 1875.

Rogers' Saw Mill - "About this period (1837) Jeremiah Rogers built a saw mill on Hoover's Branch (North branch) of Crout Creek in Washington township which was in operation several years. Other saw mills were soon erected in this township to help open up the farm lands of Jersey settlement." This was located in the center of section 28. (March 18, 1950 *"Greenville Advocate"*)

Colonia Blacksmith Shop - This shop in Colonia located on the 1857 plat.

Noll Sawmill - The Nashville Church records indicate that John W. Noll owned a saw-mill near Sharpeye at the time Nashville built their 1899 church, and the wood for the church was cut at this mill. Noll lived near the intersection of Noll Road and Winchester Pike.

Brown Sawmill and Golf Course - On the farm now owned by Lester Hollinger, Vernon Brown operated a saw mill from about 1925 to about 1940. Also through the late 1920's Vernon Brown had a golf course on his farm.

Frank Sorghum Mill - John G. Frank had a sorghum mill in Harrison township in section 17 in 1875. "On the place Mr. Frank has a sorghum mill, which has brought a good revenue and has yielded much valuable fertilizing material." (pg. 305, 1900 *Biography of Darke County)*

Wilcox Sugar Camp - Isaac Newton Wilcox ran a sugar camp in section 27 from about 1893 to 1925.

Mote Blacksmith Shop - A blacksmith shop at Sharpeye is shown as early as 1857, between the hotel and the creek. This may have belonged to I.W. Snell. By 1875 the shop is identified as Dillman Mote's. Dillmon's son, D.W. Mote, logged this in his April 15, 1938 diary entry (Wallawa County Museum, Joseph, Oregon): "...Dreamed of Daddy. He toes a horse shoe for Old Snip and left it on the 'forge'. The 'smut' was on it yet, the rough surface of a 'fresh weld' just as he would have left it."

Blocher Tanyard - Bordering Dillman Mote's property in section 27, Washington township, was the farm of Sam Blocher. Dillmon's son D.W. was born 1853, and D.W.'s childhood memories recorded in his diary give an interesting glimpse at the Blocher tanyard:

Jan. 2, 1940 - "...memories of early days of Sammy Blocher, father of eight to nine, tanner, shoemaker, farmer. He had the first reaper-mower, fought the bumble bees in our clover-field. Wore, always, linsey-wolsey barn door pants a vest and old blue 'warm us' with big brass buttons. Short, always in a hurry, long hair parted in the middle full untrimmed beard, coming to father's shop with a bolt, a plowshare. Once he rode 'Gin' just a sheepskin for a saddle, got on a high block, jumped clear, fell on the other side flat on the ground on his concave belly."

July 13, 1936, "...The Blochers seem to crowd my mind. How long had they lived on the Wildcat road? How, why, did they live there? Sammy was a tanner - they cautioned me not to fall into the tanning vats, Mother took me with her thru the dark woods. She went after seeds, usually in the Spring. How kindly they were beneath their blunt, rough speech. To me the tan yard, the many little buildings, (the hides), the big bank barn - mystery. How deep and perfect the isolation. They were Dunkers. The dread, dark woods round a fit setting for their grim austere beliefs. I can't remember eating a good apple from their orchard, nor a good meal at their table. They made their own shoes from their own leather tanned from the hides of their own cattle butchered for their own meat. Their dresses, barn door pants, skirts coats were spun and woven by their own hands, from their own wool clipped from their own sheep."

Swaim Saw Mill - In a deed from John and Delilah

Vanderveer to Samuel Fox, July 14, 1846, mention is made of four acres with saw mill in the east side of NW¼ of section 33 twp. 11 Rt. 2 E. This four acres was for John Swaim Jr. and a mill race too was to be for his use.

Snyder Cigars and Death Metal - Ira Edger recalls that on Ross Road at Harold Harter's, Harold used to make some cigars. They may have been called Snyder cigars. Also in this area Elmer Death had a source of metal from which he made various metal items.

Downing Fruit Farm - Started in 1838 by John and his son Jason Downing, the family run enterprise continued through Robert (1843), Poe (1869), Ernest (1901), and Robert L. (1940). The Downings "grow, harvest, and sell over 200 varieties of summer, fall and winter apples, as well as cider, gourds, pumpkins, Indian corn, bittersweet, quince, peaches, nectarines, grapes, raspberries, plums, melons, tomatoes, sweet corn, and strawberries." ("The Early Bird")

Downing Blacksmith Shop - "John and Margaret Downing came to Darke County in 1817 from South Carolina. He had a blacksmith shop on his farm, and hired a smith part of the time. Jason spent considerable time in this shop, and obtained a pretty good idea of the trade, but though he would try teaching school; after one term, he concluded that did not suit him, and he learned the brickmason's trade..." (pg. 692, 1880 *History of Darke County)*

Elston Sugar Camp - Levi Elston tapped the maple trees in his woods southeast of Sharpeye in section 34 Washington township.

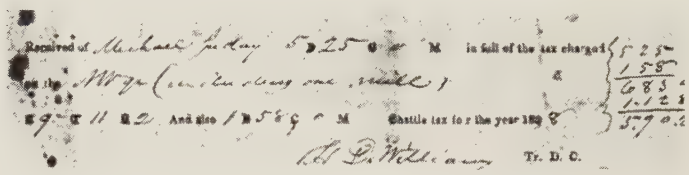
Broom Shops - The 1875 plat locates a broom shop near the home of S. Baker on Route 36, section 17 Neave township. A broom shop east of Baker was run by Dave Wise into the 1930's, and this building may still be standing. Ira Edger recalls his dad Charles used to raise broom corn. Manuel Hollinger also made brooms.

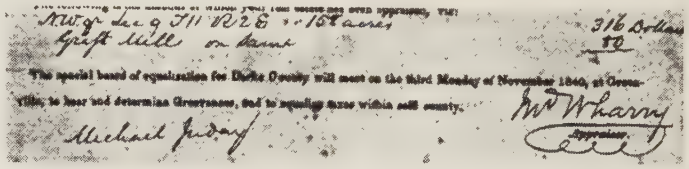
Crumrine Saw Mill - The 1857 plat locates a steam saw mill on the J. Crumrine property, section 20 of Neave township.

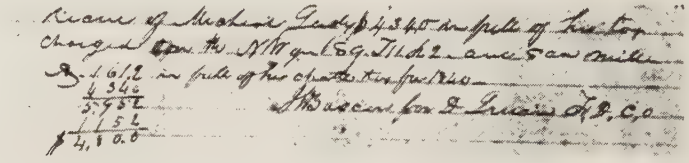
Still - Deed Book B-2-384 records a March 31, 1827 covenant agreement between township trustees Abraham Studabaker, David Miller, and Archibald Bryson and James Rush for one year rent of NW¼ sec. 16 twp. 11 Rt. 2. "Three hundred and fifty bushels good sound merchantable corn, to be delivered on, or before the first day of March next, and to enclose a pasture lot with the old rails so as to include three acres of ground with the old still house and to brake up two acres of new prairie and repair the fence to suit his own purpose - and it is further covenanted and agreed that the said party of the second part shall not cut or waste any sugar tree or other green timber nor suffer the same to be done while in his possession."

Brumbaugh Tile - The business directory of the 1888 Darke County plat lists J.H. Brumbaugh tile manufacturer works situated ¼ mile east of Baker P.O. "A large stock now on hand at lowest market price."

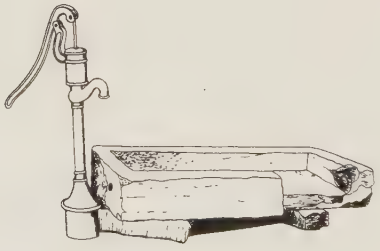
Judy Grist Mill - "...Even the little branch emptying into Mud Creek from the west about a mile southwest of Greenville, fed a little grist mill on the old Judy farm and a saw mill, just below on the old Wm. Bishop farm at the turn of U.S. Route 36 - both within sight of present Oak Grove School." (Fraser Wilson, March 11, 1950, "Greenville Advocate"). Judy tax receipts date the mills on his farm.

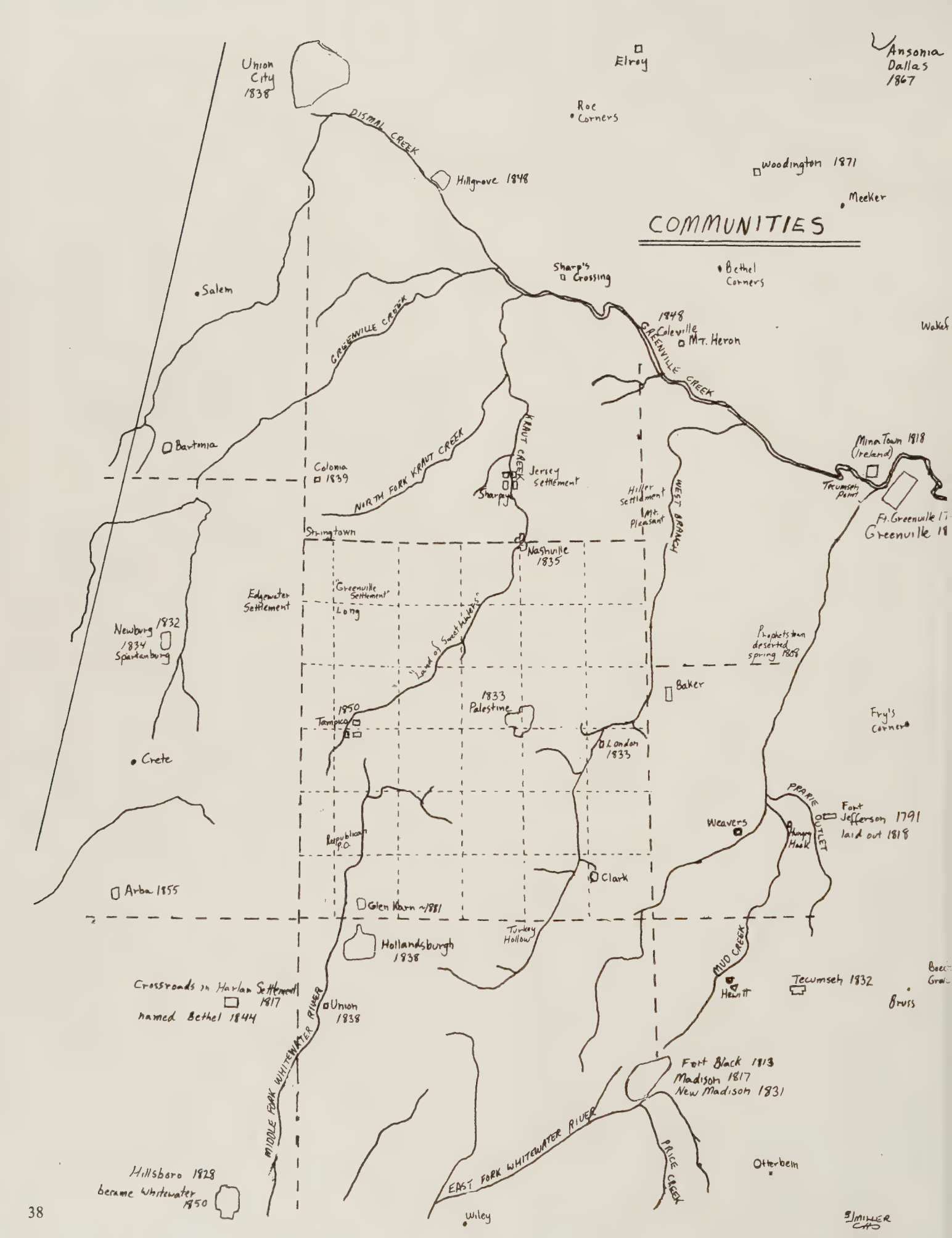






Michael Judy tax receipts.




COMMUNITIES
Union City 1838
Elroy
Ansonia Dallas 1867
Roc Corners
DISMAL CREEK
Hillgrove 1848
Woodington 1871
Meeker
Salem
Sharp's Crossing
Bethel Corners
GREENVILLE CREEK
1848 Coleville
Mt. Heron
Walker
Bartonia
Colonia 1839
NORTH FORK KRAUT CREEK
KRAUT CREEK
Jersey Settlement
Sharpsburg
Hiller settlement
Mt. Pleasant
WEST BRANCH
Mina Town 1818 (Ireland)
Tecumseh Point
Ft. Greenville 17
Greenville 18
Stringtown
Nashville 1835
Edgewater Settlement
"Greenville Settlement"
Long
Newburg 1832
1834 Spartanburg
"Land of Sweet Waters"
Prophetstown deserted spring 1809
Baker
1833 Palestine
1850 Tampico
Fry's Corner
London 1833
Crete
PRAIRIE OUTLET
Fort Jefferson 1791 laid out 1818
Weavers
Hungry Hook
Republican P.O.
Clark
Arba 1855
Glen Karn ~1881
Turkey Hollow
Hollandsburgh 1838
MUD CREEK
Crossroads in Harlan Settlement 1817 named Bethel 1844
Union 1838
Hewitt
Tecumseh 1832
Bruss
MIDDLE FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
Fort Black 1813 Madison 1817 New Madison 1831
EAST FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
PRICE CREEK
Otterbein
Hillsboro 1828 became Whitewater 1850
Wiley
S. J. MILLER CHS

Chapter III
Communities

Through the last one hundred-fifty years many settlements, neighborhoods, and communities have existed. When the lands were covered with forests, people who lived in the same "neck of the woods" lived literally in the same niche in the woods. Before supermarkets, paved highways, and gasoline-powered tractors, people relied heavily on each other. Neighbors shared the work of barn-raising, quilting, butchering, harvesting. Some early villages have disappeared entirely, and only hints remain of a few. It is interesting to look at the communities that have served in and around German township these many years.

Palestine

It is impossible to put together all the commercial and social interests of Palestine over its 150 year span, but a look at selected historical records and maps placed in somewhat chronological sequence gives a good feeling of Palestine's sesqui-centennial history.

"Palestine, a hundred years old last autumn, is a pretty town in the western section of Darke Co. So attractive were its surroundings that its first settlers, charmed with its prairies and values that they considered akin to Paradise and deeming it a bit too sacreligious to name it 'heaven', came as near to that delectable land as possible in calling their new town Palestine." (1934 Miami Co. newspaper)

"A beautiful view from the site of the new village was thought to have inspired the name." (1880 *History of Darke County)*

"The name was chosen as a memorial to the Holy Land, because of its beautiful location and view." ("Greenville Advocate" fiftieth anniversary edition, 1933)

James Devor, surveyor of the County of Darke, certified the plat of Palestine as surveyed June 1, 1833. Samuel Loring and Samuel Guier were the proprietors, Guyer owning that part of the town situated in the southeast quarter of section 15 (lots 13-20) and Samuel Loring owning lots 1-12 in the southwest quarter of section 14. Loring and Guyer acknowledged the signing of the plat before Justice of the Peace Benjamin Eakins, and recorded by John Wharry. (Deed book D-1-26)

The first addition of the Town of Palestine was by proprietor Abraham Weaver August 9, 1838. This included lots 21-30. (Deed book I-1-35)

Lots 31-40 were in Mary Bott's addition surveyed July 11, 1839. (Deed book K-1-164)

Judson Jaqua surveyed the next addition March 30, 1841. William Mitten was the proprietor of this addition which included lots 41-47. Again the survey was made from "the stone in the center of Main & Main Cross Streets as Noted by the original plat". (Deed book L-1-422)

Lots 48-64 were probably not in any plat additions, but rather added independently through the following years.

Prior to 1857, there is little information on the businesses in Palestine, so to look at this period, we have gleaned the following information from various sources.

First hewed log house erected in Palestine.

Taverns

Feb. 1818, Jonathan Pearson fined for selling whiskey to Indians.

May 1, 1837, John W. Jones granted license of keeping tavern in Palestine.

May 6, 1839, Elias Bromagen granted license to keep tavern at his house in Palestine.

September 4, 1840, Daniel Ingle granted license to keep tavern at his house in Palestine.

July 25, 1845, John D. Mills granted license to keep tavern at his house in Palestine. ("Darke County Ohio Common Pleas Court Records, 1817-1860" compiled by Anita S. Short and Ruth Bowers)

Coopering

Solomon Frank, born 1817, began the coopering business at age 18, "which occupation he followed for upward of twenty years. In 1840, he came to this township (German) and located in the town of Palestine, where he pursued his usual vocation." (1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 571)

Wagon Shop

George Kester moved back to German township in 1838, to the farm of his father where he remained until about 1871, during which time he was "carrying on his shop in Palestine". While some evidence indicates Kester may have been involved with a tannery, this shop was probably a wagonmaker's shop, as he had earlier trained in this occupation. (1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 579). George Kester is credited on his Norris store account in 1854-55 by "wagon $23.00", "hawling brick" and "freeing buggywheel 3.00".

J.M. Harter Store

The earliest known store in Palestine may have been J.M. Harter's. An advertisement in the "Greenville Patriot" October 25, 1848, filled half of one column promoting Dr. Briggs Indian Queen Vegetable Sugarcoated pills which had a magical effect upon bilious fever and agues. It was causing great excitement among doctors, and could be bought in Darke county at various places, including John Harter at Palestine and William Holloman at Hollandsburgh.

A worn and weathered ledger of J.M. Harter's for the years 1848 and 1849 provide a valuable picture of the store from Palestine's earliest days.

The products and prices were simple and unique to this period of time. And one can almost picture being in the old wooden-floored store choosing from the items available: molasses 40¢ gal., whisky 35¢ gal., soap 5¢ cake, ginger, beer $1.00 half keg, vinegar, apples, fish, candles, coffee 10¢ lb., allum 10¢ lb., camphor 60¢ lb., Liquerish 16¢ lb., tea, ciggars, writing paper, tooth brushes, rice 10¢ lb., sulphur, Port wine 50¢ pint, Brimstone, nutmegs 2¢ each, mackarel 8½¢ lb., ess. peppermint, loaf, eggs 4¢ doz., common tobacco 10¢ lb., sugar 16¢ lb. loaf, cinnamon 16¢ for 1/16 lb., salt 2.50 bbl., bottle 15¢, smoking tobacco 10¢ lb., turpentine 4¢ gal., Indigo 10¢ for 1/16 lb., powder 25¢ lb., Bead cord, bowls, spoons, butter, combs, suspenders 10¢ pare, Cider, candles 15¢ lb., oysters, Brandy, raisins, nuts, candy, P. Cushion Caps, brandy $1.00 gal., chickens, Lemon syrup, Sweet oil 18¢ bottle, beans 8¢ ½ bus., macches, tea 25¢ ¼ lb., cheese 12½¢ lb., cloves, lemonade, cakes, castor oil 18¾¢ bottle, oyster soup, watermelon 6¼¢, mustard 12½¢ box, crackers 8½¢ lb., Burbon whisky 80¢ gal., blackening 6¢ box, mackerel 8¢, whiting 6¢ lb., handkerchief, lineament 25¢ bottle, jug 13¢, shot 10¢ lb., B. Ink 7¢ bottle, bar lead, flour, Parigoric 10¢ bottle, hand sawfile 10¢, pepper 20¢ lb., washing soap 18¢ cake.

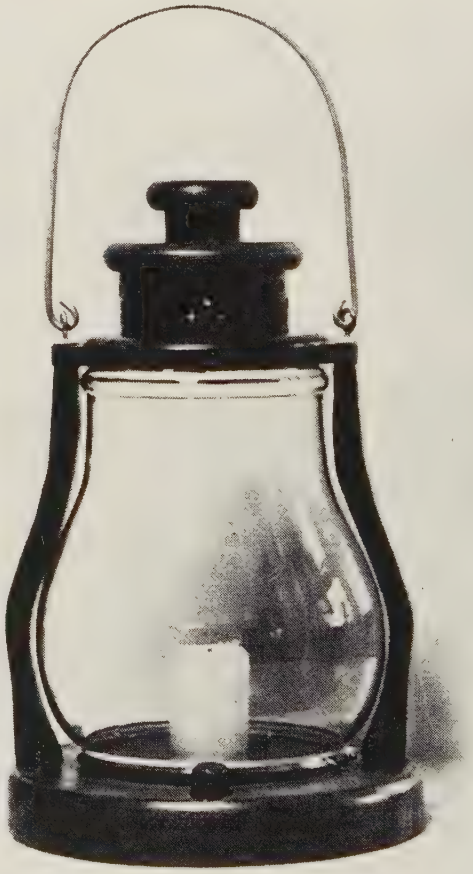
While there standing near the wood stove, you might have seen any of the following walk in: John Deeter, James Cloyd, W.W. Davis, Henry Bowman, William Emrick, Samuel Parent, Joseph Shephard, J.W. Shiveley, P.W. Jellison, Peter Weaver, David Putman, Daniel Crumrine, Samuel Crumrine, John Puterbaugh, C. Evart, George Mitten, C. Tayler, Robert Stewart, John Reed, Wm. Sell, Peter Crumrine, Daniel Brooks, Daniel Wagonor Sr., N.L. Jones, Daniel Deeter, Jaret Mutchner, Jacob Sell, Christopher Tyler, Matthew Shafer, Edward Law, Samuel Fox, John Teford, Daniel Kester, George Reed, Gordon Cloyd, W.D. McClelen, A.C. Deem, Charles Niccum, Samuel Sheckt, Stephen Cloyd, James Simpson, J.J. Stingley, Stephen Wagner, Wm. Robison, John Okey, Jesse Okey, W.W. Davis, Ambrose Green, David Walk, Joseph Shepard, J. Norris, I.F. Gier, Wm. Martin, James Saily, J. Smith, George Head, Henry Frazier, Christopher Tayler, N. Howel, John Clapp, D. Mills.

Norris Store Books

Kenny Ketring's collection of Norris/Harter's old store books total five. The oldest is J.M. Harter's store book, which from the prominence of sales of molasses and whisky, may indicate more a tavern than store.

There is a smooth transition from Harter's store into Norris's store as there appears to be a Norris-Harter partnership from 1849-1851. These early dates begin with both J.G. Norris and J.M. Harter's names. When J.M. Harter dies March 17, 1856, Norris is the executor of Harter's estate.

From 1851, records of the store of J.G. Norris are gleaned from the remaining four books. The books are used at different times in some occasions. For example, one book is used as a store account book from 1849 to 1851. J.G. Norris returns to it's unused pages to use as a day book in 1869. A couple of books are used for the mill, and a couple are used to keep records from both Norris's mill and the store (groceries). The store and mill were quite probably two distinct buildings with the business accounts of each on occasion sharing the same ledger books. Thus we look separately at the mill records and the store records from this valuable collection.



Lantern made from old street light globe.

Accounts - The J.M. Harter and J.G. Norris store book for 1849-1852 showed an increase in the amount of merchandise and listed the following who had accounts:

E.B. Godfrey, James Cole, John Frank, Samuel Ingle, H.C. Clapp, Malinda Cox, James Daily, Manlius Willcox, J. Ruper, Joseph Randolph, H. Hanshaus, George Brooks, James Woodmansee, Jacob Chenoweth, Thomas Robison, Martin Rupe, Joseph Bowers, C. Gooden, William Rupe, M. Coble, W.C. Martine, Jacob Crumrine, Catharine Cloyd, William Thompson, Asa Woodmansee, A. Kimmerling, Wm. Kester, Samuel Kerst, T.F. Chenoweth, Charles Willcox, David Servis, James Fowler, William Green, Perry Greene, Gordon Cloyd, S.H. Woodmensee, David Clear, Henry Snell, W.S. Rup, John Okey, James Hardin, Levi Shaffer, John Davis Jr., Silas Richards, Samuel Kurlinger, William Spencer, John Copestick, George Carl, A.G. Williams, Samuel Specht, John Ketring Sr., Joseph Bolinger, N. Skidmore, Bama Tedord, Henry Bechler, John Harless, J.M. Harter, R.S. Ross, M.J. Woods, John Kimmerling, Read Harter, James Tate, S.O. Brodrick, Martin Ketring, A.C. Deem, John Clear, Geo. Anderson, Samuel Jones, John Teford, David Putman, Joel Clark, A. Jones, Sol. Frank, William Owens, Geo. Mitten, James A. Davis, William Robison, David Stephens, Andrew Green, Wilkins Moore, C. Rush, Herrod Mills, Donovan Reed, Nathan Gibson, J.L. Clapp, Ludwic Clapp, L. Kimmerling, Elias Ross, Henry Lapp, John Lester, Frank Bull, W.C. Deem, Henry Hanshaw, C.H. Sell, John McCabe, George Wireick, F. Diveley, Joshua Crumring, Samuel Coble, Susan Coble, David Briant, Henry Smelker, L. Clemens, Jacob Becker, Mrs. Bodle, S.O. Brodrick, Tiny Cunningham, Lewis Clapp, James Moore, Silas Strait, J.W. Deeter, Clark Spencer, Lewis Flatter, G.W. Head, John Thomas, Samuel Mikesell, Martine Slowers, J.D. Mills, David Kunkle, Samuel Thomas, E. Law, William Zimmerman, Samuel Mays, Jesse Okey, Andrew Flatter, Robert Robison, Samuel Robison, Thomas Foster, R. Enoch, Harrison Thomas, Blake Wigs, Henry Burkerbile, William Newton, Mrs. Kimmerling, P.W. Jellison, Mary Law, B. Horne, M. H. Shaffer, James Wiley, J.D. Jefferis, Marshal Miller, Daniel Friar, Silas Niccum, Jacob Hartle, Ben Eakins Jr., Henry Ingle, Charles Niccum, Robert Sears, William Hasafoos (Hausafoos), Geo. Thomas, Evan Thomas, Mary Sedan, William Woods, C.A. Cloyd, E. Fipps, M. Jeffeirs, Geo. Wagner Sr., Elisabeth Potter, G. Fipps, Joseph Thomas, Ad. Woodmansee, Aaron Adams, Squire Jefferis, David McCreal, James Willcox Jr., I.S. Chenoweth, John Robison, Harrison Brawley, John Warner Sr., Joseph Wenger, Robert Rupe, A. Cox, John Robison, Geo. W. Head, Eli Clapp, John C. Davis, James Clay, Robert Smith, Thomas Burden, Henry Bowman, Joseph Birely, Henry Grow, Henry Stokes, Marshall Burden, Mary Smith, John Coble, Henry Hitchcock, Randolph Bowers, Michael Niccum, John Williams, J.L. Mills, William Martin, Samuel Hitchcock, A.D. Moore, Thomas Hines, John Reicy, John Vanderveere, Loyd Brown, Joseph Heck, J.W. Jellison, Lewis Matthew, Jacob Grow, Sr., Elizabeth Willcox, Nancy McIntosh, John E. Clapp, Lov. Coble, S.W. Throp, Mary A. Messner, S.J. French, John Stivers, James Tate, Alen Ross, Jarrett Muchner, Samuel Crumrine, Alexander Mason, Tate Mills, S.W. Throp, J.J. Stingley, Lewis Aukerman, Eli Coble, Mary Stapleton, Jesse Woods, Eve Kinarex, Willson Smith, Jacob Rarick, John McIntosh, Thomas Copestick, J.W. Achey, Rachel Densmore, Daniel Kurlinger, William Shaffer, Levi Cunningham, Eli Hetter, A.C. Deem, William Zimmerman, Racheal Head, William Birely, J.J. McIntoch, J.H. Berry, Solomon Bolinger, Eve M. Clear, Mathas Wolf, James Cloyd, Darlington Jefferis, Michael Kunkle, L. Pasecum, C.S. Avery, J.F. Wears, Patsey Sinard, Wiley Jerdan, Thomas Copestick, J.D. Mills, Stults Lanphen, Jonathan Shaffer, Absolum McKinney, C.S. Weaver, Lavina Friar, Wm. Zimmerman, James Tate, Joel Clark, Benjamin Hanshaw, Fredrick Houpt, Ab. Weaver, Wm. Burket, M. Colaflour, John W. Garret, Samuel Fox, Henry Heck, Isaac Winbrener, J.W. Mills, Sol. Aukerman, Jane Copestick, Robert Moore, William Willias, Asa Davis, Jacob Crumrine, Otas Brubaker, Mary Brooks, James Wiley, David Walk, Sarah Helm, David Hamilton, As. Sparkes, Joel Shepard, George Teford, Phillip Warick, Daniel Wagner, James A. Davis, John Vanderveere, John Strate, J.J. McCowen, E. Law, Geo. Parent, A.R. Blizard, J.C. Deem, Elias Niccum, James Harding, James Rupe, A.C. Deem, Mealy Teaford, Thomas Brumit, C.B. Lanpher, Jonathan Davis, Moses McKinney, Allen Cloyd, C.T. Lanpher, Moses Woods, Charles Daily, Nemiah Ward, William Robison, Fleming Tucker, J.T. Adams, W.H. Brawly, James Tate, George Kimmerling Jr., Orrin Sumner, Major Brown, Jackson Spencer, John Zimmerman, John Farling, Mary Teford, C. Craven, George Teford Jr., James Willcox Sr., Stephen Cloyd, Wm. Martin, Lewis Kester, W.H. Jenks, N.W. Loring, Jonathan Teford, L. Monfort, Rebecca Woods, J.T. Smith, Catherine Blizzard, Samuel Parent Jr., Joseph Shephard, Rob Lippencott, Geo. Stingley, Geo. Reed, Malinda Sndsews, Willas Phipps, Mary Ellen Hook, Geo. Miller, Daniel Friar, Thomas Pooker, Benjamin Gray, Loyd Brown, Joseph Baves, R.S. Ross, John Frank, Thomas Good, Jacob Sink, Andrew Puterbaugh, J.C. Wikoof, Andrew Green, Martin Rupe, L. Stephens, Phillip Muchner, A.J. Sparkes, Benjamin Eakins Sr., Thomas Rupe, Charles Clemens, Joseph Stowers, Geo. Flatter, John Harding, Stephen Wagner, David Clear, W.M. Woods, B.W. Evans, W.H. Jenks, Jacob Hanshaw, Lewis Hosafoos, T.F. Chenoweth, Lewis Aukerman, M.H. Shaffer, William Robison, W.C. Deem, William Conway, Sol. Frank, Cornelius Rodgers, Martin Rupe Jr., Micheal Lindamoot, Stephen Garrett, Wilkin Moore, Micheal Niccum, Sarah Fox, Joshua Cloyd, Eli Davis, Martin Stowers, Mary Singer, S.K. Davis, Wm. Heck, Easton Weaver, John Willcox, Solomon Hefner, George Kimmerling, J.W. Brooks, Henry Knee, W.R. Looker, Martha Brooks, S.O. Brodrick, J.F. Wears, J.W. Shively, Daniel Brooks, Reuben Goen, Daniel Deeter, James Lippencott, J.J. Shepard, James Finafrock, W.D. Davis, David Deeter, Es. Sinard, Zach. Green, Jacob Sell, George Crumrine, Jackson Bromit, N.W. Perry, Miss Cas. Ross, J.N. Parcell, Samuel Grow, W.E. Brady, L.W. Rupe, Abraham Wiggs, Dr. C. Edwards, R. Bass, Charles Mason, John Clemens Jr., Andrew Miller, Nancy Deeter, Miss M.J. Robison, George Weaver, Samuel Cole, Matthew Frisnble, Aaron Smock, Ann Enoe, Allen Davis, J.M. Perry, Christopher Taylor.

Merchandise - The Norris account books record what merchandise was available in the Palestine store. Listed below is some of the items sold in the years 1854-1855.

Ginger, batting, medicines, tumblers, violin strings (sold to David Willcox), coffee, sugar, nails, rice, quinine,

balsam, pills, panacea, hats, iron, tar, crocks, boots, pitcher, meal, parasol, tobacco, muslin, gloves, suspenders, brandy, oil, calico, lamp filler, book, molasses, white fish, liniment, linen, cutting pants, Horse powder, umbraller, ribbin, buttons, blanket, candles, twine, crackers, lead, sewing silk, scissors, salt, lace, basket, broom, brass kettle, spoons, bed chord, indigo, bonnet and silk ribbon to Elis. Lindamoot, W. paper, matches, pepper, ginger, soap, wash board to Miss Elis. Clapp paid for with butter, vinegor, pain killer, peaches, bucket, white lincy, file, camphor, cut yarn, nail rod, fine coat, gum shoes, whet stone, holter chain, gingham, Seeling wax, glasses and case, brush, wash tub, alum rope, shoes, cinnamon, car oil, delain (to Capt. Jno. Bertch), Razor Strop (to Samuel Harding), eggs, knife, garden seeds, cloves, shawl pin, flannel, screws, loaf sugar, robe, syrup, mustard (to George Kester), steel hoe, whip, lard, cheese, opodeldic (opodeldoc - a soap liniment, especially one containing camphor), sythe and stick, axe, dishes, knobs, shingles, carpet warp, madder (red dye), gimp (fabric sometimes stiffened with wire to trim garments, furniture), slip sleaves, edgeing, grind stone, door lock, tin pan, stove, turpentine, keg, copperas, thread, navy tobacco, lamp, lamp chimney, braid, Prac arithmetic, wick, bees wax, strap hinges, wood bowl, barrels, shovle, spade, spring steel (to David Ketring Jun), Irish linen to David Ketring, crackers, virmifuge (worm medicine), violin strings to Loyd Brown, razor and strap, ague med. and cas. oil, rye coffee, wood bucket, fruit jars, blacking (to Capt. W. Rolland), silver spoons to J.A. Davis, feathers, apple butter, borax, window paper, starch, coat and pants, tea, overcoat, cap, pumpkins, pocket knife, drilling, axe handle (by Milton Rush), sandpaper, cordial, Irish shirt to Reed Brown, Tallow, virtrial to A. Dickey, shears, onions, hatchet, auger to Randolph Bowers, shoe pegs to Mary Smith (shoe pegs used to hold shoe parts together until 1860 when stitching machine was used to sew soles to uppers. This also the first years that left and right shoes were made on different lasts), bricks to Henry Burkerbile Jr., fish, hoop iron, landanum, and small stocking to Manlius Willcox, dishes, ink to Hugh Hill, gimblets, Hugh Hill used eggs, cheese and butter to help pay his debts, salaratus (baking soda), bacon, comfort, undershirt, oysters, flasks, spice, hooping to George Teford Jr., Lead camps and c., beef, dog chain, cur. comb to Eason Sparkes, tea kittle to J.G. Ross, chucholate, oil spike, shoe thread, ticking to Isaac Miller, cups and saucers, salts to John Toyer, pocket book to Rub. Leslie, lace, looking glass to David Ketring Sr., chalk line to Thos. Stapelton, meat tub to W.M. Argerbright, handsaw to Jas. McCabe, L.S. Oil oil and brushes to Solomon Bolinger.

Later Accounts - Follow are some transactions taking place as recorded in Norris's ledgers from 1860-1865.

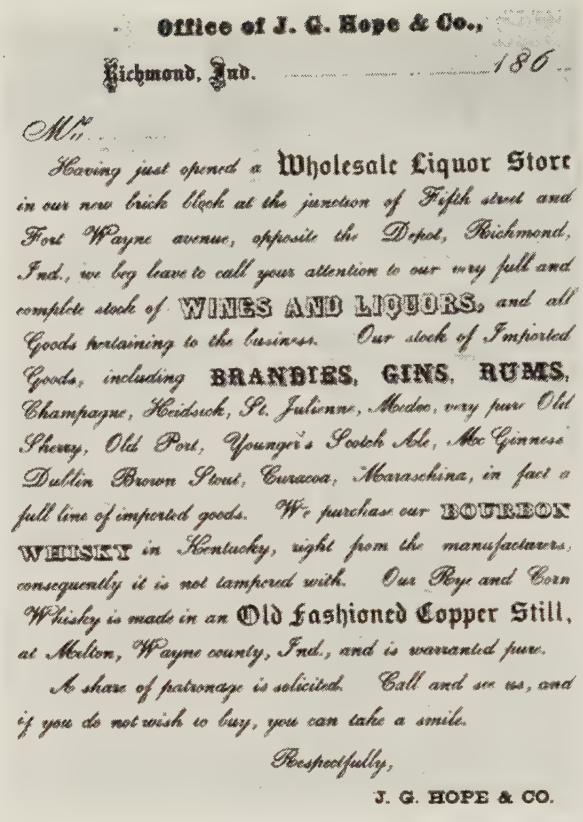
Peter Kimer bought a sleigh for $25.00 Jan. 1, 1860

Samuel Harding, A.W. Crowell, and Abram Black all paid for pasture in 1859 and 1860. Jon Smock bought pasture for horse, $2.50 Oct. 1861.

Hiram Allen bought pasture Nov. 1860.

1862, W.F. Harrison bought pasture and hay, five bushel potatoes, salt at Wilson, four bushel apples, shoes and groceries, three quarters cord wood. Much of this was paid for by watching mill, and by work.

David Putman bought doz. eggs for 10¢ May 2, 1862.



Office of J. G. Hope & Co.,

Richmond, Ind. ..... 186..

Mr. .....

Having just opened a **Wholesale Liquor Store** in our new brick block at the junction of Fifth street and Fort Wayne avenue, opposite the Depot, Richmond, Ind., we beg leave to call your attention to our very full and complete stock of **WINES AND LIQUORS**, and all Goods pertaining to the business. Our stock of Imported Goods, including **BRANDIES, GINS, RUMS**, Champagne, Heidsick, St. Julienne, Medoc, very pure Old Sherry, Old Port, Younger's Scotch Ale, Mac Ginness' Dublin Brown Stout, Curacoa, Maraschina, in fact a full line of imported goods. We purchase our **BOURBON WHISKY** in Kentucky, right from the manufacturers, consequently it is not tampered with. Our Rye and Corn Whisky is made in an **Old Fashioned Copper Still**, at Melton, Wayne county, Ind., and is warranted pure.

A share of patronage is solicited. Call and see us, and if you do not wish to buy, you can take a smile.

Respectfully,

J. G. HOPE & CO.

Advertisement stuck in old Norris store books.

Jo. Burgess bought one bushel shipstuf for 50¢ Sept. 11, 1863.

Balser Horn paid 50¢ to 50 lbs. ship March 27, 1863.

Christ. Fayler bought 12 bushel corn June 1862 for $3.40.

Solomon Frank bought ashes 20¢ Sept. 1862.

1861, Harrison received cash for flour from George Hecker. In 1862 Becker paid for 75 lbs. flour by wheat.

1863 April 22, Elias Ross bought coffee pot, pie pan, soda, three yards H Shirting, paid for with cash and butter.

Jonathan Wagoner bought one BB1 ashes on 15 June 1863.

James Willcox bought six bushel potatoes for $4.50 in 1862 and peaches $1.00 in 1863.

In 1863, J.F. Wear bought 1½ bushel meal, caps, led, collar, tobacco, balance on hose, white wash brush, window paper, rice churd and spice, Skelitin, one quarter yards musling paying through the year with corn, eggs, and butter.

1863, T.C. Katzenberger & Bro. Greenville Brewers bought meal, ship Headings shipstuff C. meal.

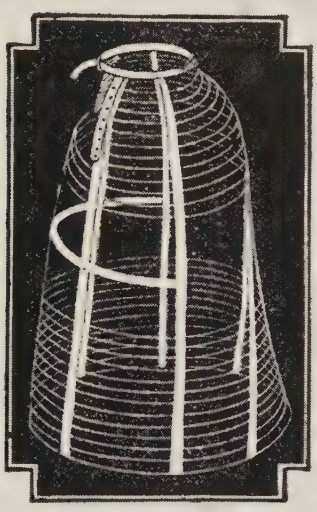
1863, Abraham Dickey bought wheat, flour, meal, ship, bran, and on two occasions bought "wheat coffee".

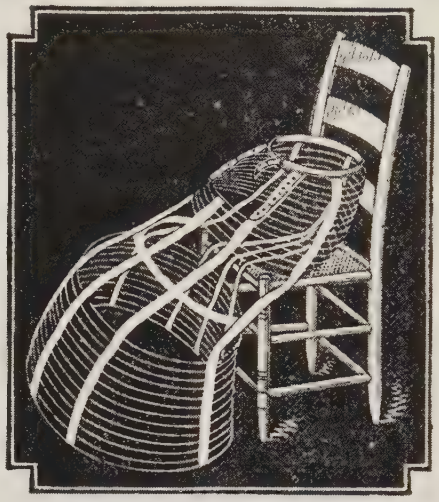
F.M. Edison bought 75 lbs. cowskin for $5.25 Oct. 1863, and 62 lbs. cowskin Dec.

Abraham Black paid for 30¢ of his bill by thrashing 1863.

Dr. John A. Jobes account shows him to have bought 100 lbs. white W. Flour 3.25, 5 bus. corn 3.25, 9½ lbs. salt 19^{c}, 2 doz. eggs 20^{c}, 2 doz. buttons 30^{c}, pen and holder and Indigo 15^{c}, hose 45^{c}, spool cotton 15^{c}, Wrighting fluid 10^{c}, glased muslin 85^{c}, 1½ yards drill 60^{c}, 2 dys baboon 55^{c}, meds per wife 5.90, 2 pair hose 20, buttons 65^{c}, dress goods vel. Truns and c., 3 yards velvet Rib 30^{c}, 2 lbs. cot batting 2.00, cuffs and buttons and c. 70^{c}, Car Oil 65^{c}. Some of this was paid for by medical attention.

FLEISCHER'S PATENT
ADELAIDE HOOP SKIRT,





For Comfort, Elegance and Ease.

CINCINNATI, O., MAY 1st 1869.

DEAR SIR:

I beg to call your especial attention to the above Skirt, of which I have secured the Sole Manufacture for the Western States. The advantages claimed for it are,

1ST, ***Comfort.***—The wire being left out in the centre, a lady can sit with comfort, not being troubled with sitting on the wire.

2ND, ***Elegance.***—This Skirt is made of the best material, and is of the latest Spring style in shape. There being nine Tapes in it, and the wire being heavy, keeps it in its proper place, even in a storm.

3RD, ***Ease.***—A lady on entering a Car or Carriage, can sit down with perfect ease and composure, it not being necessary to press the Skirt down in front to keep it in place.

This Skirt can be shortened *in the centre*, as the wearer may desire, and preserve the shape, which is an advantage gained over the extension or drop Skirt, which in lengthening at *the top* throws the Skirt out of shape.

A trial order will convince you that **Fleischer's Patent Adelaide Hoop Skirt** will supercede all others in a short time.

I will furnish you the necessary Show Cards, Circulars, &c., free, to assist in introducing it in your vicinity.

PRICE OF ADELAIDE HOOP SKIRT.

20 Springs, 9 Tapes, of fine 2 inch tape, silvered fastenings and silvered bottom hoop,.....$13,00 per
25 " do do do do do $15,0

Enclosed is Price List of my Celebrated Buckeye Hoop Skirt.

French Corsets, 16 Whalebones.....$10,00 per dozen.
Buckeye Collars, cloth lined button hole, Dickens style,.....$13,00 per 1000.

On all of which I will allow 5 per cent. discount if promptly paid within 10 days after receipt of goods.

Hoping to receive a trial order of you, to which I will pay the utmost attention, I am,

Yours, Respectfully,

GEO. K. TRISL

No. 32 West Pe

Advertisement stuck in old Norris store books.

Beginning in 1864 George Kester bought flour barrel 1.00, 38 17/56 bushel corn 34.40, 5 bushel corn (crib) 5.00, 1 box pills 25¢, soda pepper 20¢, 3 galoon 45¢, 1 bushel bucket 70¢, 1 spool thread 10¢, 2 flower pots 20¢, matches and c. 30¢, 3 lbs. sugar 75¢, 2 lbs. rice 30¢, Sundries 60¢, 22 1/3 yards jaconette 20¢, ginger 25¢, salts 5¢, ¼ doz. dishes 65¢, crocks and starch 1.10, broom 40¢, hoops 1.50, thimble 10¢, carb. oil 60¢, meds 1.35, file 20¢, glass 1.50, nails 25¢, meds, draw chains 2.00, gloves 75¢, rice and c. 55¢.

In 1863 Fox & McCabe bought 15½ cords wood 23.25, ¾ gal. oil 75¢, 1½ bushel wheat 1.50, 400 brick 2.00 in 1864, 2/3 day work on Fur. 1.00, 102 flour Bbls. 51.00, 1 bucket 45, 3lbs. shot 75¢, 1 bot. turpentine 20¢, 1 yard crash 25¢, ½ lb. nails 08¢, Hand sawfile 20¢, matches 05¢, flour Bbl. 50¢.

1864, Eakins and Dickey bought day masoning 2.00, nails 70¢, file 55¢, tobacco 10¢, wood screws 10¢.

1864, Larken Archey bought 4 lbs, fish 25¢.

1864, W.M. Wilson bought 15 lbs. 3 d. nails 2.25.

1864, Mrs. James Wright bought hats, calico 63¢, C. oil 20¢, crackers 10¢, caster oil, ½ lb. crackers 05¢, stamp strings 05¢, spool thread 10¢, ribon 63¢, mackrel 19¢, caster oil 15¢, pills 25¢, paper 05¢, envelops 4¢, stamps 9¢, fish and vinegar 23¢, coffee and c. 65¢.

1864, Joel Batton bought turpentine 20¢, Liniment 25¢, ¼ gro. matches 10¢, soda 05¢, envelops brade 18¢, Galoon 4 bolts 60¢, crackers and candy 07¢, shoes 2.00, muslin 33¢, tobacco 05¢.

1864, Denis Hart 1 lb. W. Nails 10¢, drill 55¢, Shaving Sope 05¢, Ribbon per wife 05¢. Much of his account paid for with eggs, butter and dri. apples.

1864, Isaac McCowen paid 1.75 for shoes.

1864, Henry Burkerbile bought speller and c. 35¢, meds, powder and c. 30¢, shoes 75¢, candy 15¢, spoons 60¢, broom 55¢.

1864, Joseph Ketring bought cheese 45¢, pair hose 35¢, Ess. coffee 10¢, Indigo 15¢, fish 40¢, tobacco 25¢, Lamp Globe 10¢, prints 45¢, buckett 85¢, cuffs 40¢, soda 05¢, Bob on Hat 50¢, Shirt 2.25, Molas. and sugar 1.25, grammar 60¢, turpentine 20¢, coffee and sugar 2.10, hoops 2.00.

1864, Elias Ross used eggs, butter, apples, and feathers to pay for his account of spool cotton 15¢, 2 Ms. Rice 36¢, Fish crocks and candy 85¢, 1 bot. Panacea 35¢, alum 15¢, crocks 70¢, medicine.

Col. David Putman's account for 1864 included 1 sac D. Salt 40¢, 10½ Ms. L. salt 21¢, post stamp 02¢, 2 doz. eggs 20¢, Indigo 15¢, Casteroil 15¢, Envelops 15¢, Ink Stand 25¢, candles 10¢, 2 hanks and thread 20¢, Benrit Board 10¢, pain killer 25¢, nutmegs 05¢, hings 35¢, screws 15¢, nails 10¢, 2 lbs. rice 34¢, 2 pairs shoes 3.80, coffee pots 2.85, tin cups dipper 30¢, beet seeds 10¢, crackers 2 lbs. 20¢, writing fluid 10¢, garden seeds 05¢, buttons 08¢, 4 lbs. peaches 1.00, tea pot and binding 65¢, gr. tea 50¢, prunes 1.20, paseboard 10 pocket book 1.00, Benjamin Eakins Jr. 1 bot. cherpectorial 1.00, paper for dau. 15¢.

Nathaniel Koons, Tick & Tweed 89¢, Turpentine 20¢, velvet 90¢, prints 75¢, kickrey chick 5.35, rosin, hair oil 25¢.

Hugh L. Hill bought muslin and suspenders 8.60, spool silk 30¢.

William Wilson bought condition powders 25¢, 1 kit mackerel 2.75, 12 lbs. R. Coffee 1.00.

Wilkins Moor bought 9 yards calico 3.00, 2 yards Blu cambric, 1 spool cot 10¢, Ess coffee 10¢, Yellow Dock 1.00, Sythe & Stick 2.00. This paid for by cash, wood, eggs, and hawling.

Jonathan Teford bought belt 40¢, spellers 40¢, hoop skirt 2.25. He used wood and rags to pay for his account.

Elisabeth Coble looking g. 35¢, powder 5 shot 12½¢.

Jacob Kertcher bought sythe stone 15¢, tobacco 20¢, shirting 35¢.

I.M. Stewert bought gaters and print 3.60.

V.D. Parent bought cre. Tartor 05¢, and curry combs 35¢.

J.F. Ware sad Iron 80¢, blacking 15¢.

Elis. Clapp plates 75¢, balsam 1.00. Paid by rags and butter.

Martin Ketring, knife 50¢. Paid by hawling, cash, butter.

Joseph Shepard 1864 bought C. comb 20¢, rat killer 25¢, tea 50¢.

Peter Kimber 1864 bought 5500 shingles.

1865, Daniel Coapstick bought hair oil and c. 50¢, powder caps and c. 40¢, 3 yards musling 1.65.

1864, Enoch Ross, 1 manure fork 1.25, 1 pair suspenders 75¢.

Anthony Gray, 1865, axce 2.75 and handle 25¢.

Loyd Brown bought 2 bushel corn in exchange for corn.

Boon Mitton church 1.65. 4 pairs stockings 1.20.

Rachaial Dickey braid 15¢.

J.G. Ross, 1864, Ticking and c. 2.95.

Fred Aukerman Jr. Army shirt 2.25, Oct. 27, 1864, drawers 2.50, 1865.

Eve Willcox cans and rosin 1.10, fruit jars 1.00, 1865.

Samuel Parent tooth brush 15¢, ring 10¢.

Nathaniel Koons arithmetic 1.10, pepper and c. 92¢, can. wick 25¢.

A.W. Crowell bought flannel 1865.

Howard Batton shoe brush 30¢, lamp 85¢.

Henry Bamfil navy tobacco 50¢.

H.L. Hill chamber 30¢, books 70¢, linen netts 80¢, coal oil 60¢.

Mary McCambell Lawn and c. 5.03, rubber 08¢.

James McCabe 2 yards gingham 1.00, hooks eye 05¢, spool cotton 15¢, galoon 15¢, fish mackerel 10¢, b. board 10¢, ¼ gal. syrup 40¢, 5/6 yd. Pantstuf 84¢, spice and c. 10¢, pencil 10¢, molases cinamon 82¢, cooper tools and c. 100.00.

B. Teaford wash basin 35¢, 4 pie pans 50¢, palm hats 1.30.

E.W. Durant tar 75¢, cans and c. 1.08, bu. knife 45¢.

Rufus Mace bought skeleton for 1.50, door lock.

Micheal Royer tobacco box 25¢, knife 50¢, tar 75¢.

J.M. Starbuck pipe and stem 05¢.

Malcina Oswalt drilling 20¢, corsets 2.25.

Insurance - On the inside back cover of Harter & Norris's store ledger is a page simply titled "Rates". It is assumed to be rates for fire insurance. No dates are with the rate page, and the book was used for store records for the 1849-1851 period and later for a day book in 1869. It is probably more apt that the insurance rates were associated with the 1849-51 period as the majority of the book was used then.

Below is a picture of one of the insurance company advertising ink blotters Norris used in his ledgers. The fact this rate sheet was inside his account book, may indicate that Norris sold some sort of fire insurance through the store.

"Rates"

Brick Dwellings	1 year	½ to ¾%
Brick Dwellings	3 years	1%
Frame Dwellings	1 year	1 to 1¼%
Frame Dwellings	3 years	1½ to 2%

Frame ranges One Frame Store isolated 1¼ to 1½ for one year.

2 frames adjoining	2%
3 frames adjoining	3%
4 frames adjoining	4% & so on

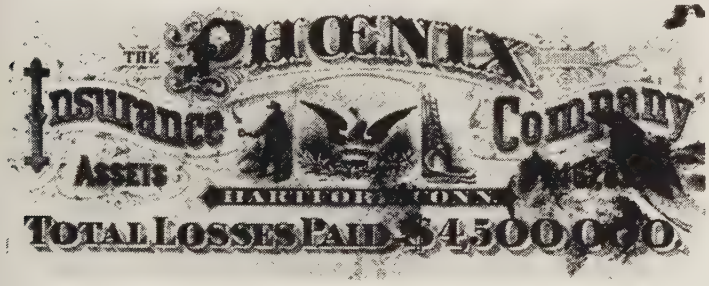
Black Smith Shops	Frame	2½ for 1 yr.
Black Smith Shops	Brick	1½ for 1 yr.
Cooper Shops	Frame	3 for 1 yr.
Cooper Shops	Brick	2 for 1 yr.
Churches & School Houses	Brick	¾ for 1 yr.
Churches & School Houses	Frame	1 for 1 yr.
Churches & School Houses	Frame	1¼ for 3 yrs.
Churches & School Houses	Brick	1 for 3 yrs.
Wagon Shops	Brick	2¼ for 1 yr.
Wagon Shops	Frame	3¼ for 1 yr.
Hotels & Taverns	Frame	2½ for 1 yr.
Hotels & Taverns	Brick	1½ for 1 yr.
Barns	Brick	1¼ for 3 yrs.
Barns	Brick	¾ for 1 yr.
Barns	Frame	2 for 3 yrs.
Barns	Frame	1 for 1 yr.

Steam Mills or any risks of Steam connections - must be avoided.

Business Houses not taken for more than one year.

Farm Dwellings take for three years at (Brick) 1 pct.

Farm Dwellings take for three years at (Frame) 1½ pct.



Ink blotter in old Norris store books.

Dry Goods Store

David Putman bought, July 1, 1845, lot #4 in Palestine for $625 from Daniel Kester and Jacob Clapp. (Deed book P-1-5). The 1880 *History of Darke County* page 587 adds, "Our subject continued business in New Madison till June, 1845, when he sold out his interest in the store to his brother, purchased a stock of goods and residence in Palestine, where he moved and commenced business next day; here he engaged with success for three years in dry goods, grain and pork; in 1848, he suffered heavy financial loss in the pork business, this being a disastrous year to pork merchants; he then exchanged his stock of goods for a farm in Preble Co., Ohio, and lived on it two years, when he disposed of it, discharged all his financial obligations, and returned to Palestine; in the two succeeding years, engaged in the insurance business, and then was proprietor of a hotel for one year; after the act of Congress granting land-warrants to the soldiers of the War of 1812, he turned his attention to this business; in the fall of 1855, he, with his wife, went to Iowa and remained there till the following spring; in the meantime, he entered about 1,000 acres of land with the land-warrants which he had purchased, traveling over the State extensively..."

Putman Building - Grocery

The Putman building is one of the oldest buildings in Palestine. Its beginnings are found sometime after the Mitten addition of 1841. May 1, 1841, William Mitten sold lots 33, 34, 35, 37 to John Puterbaugh. (Deed book M-1-133, 136)

July 1846, Puderbaugh sold lot 33 to John Vanderveer for $350. (Deed book P-1-469)

Nov. 24, 1847, John Vanderveer sold lot 33 to John M. Harter for $700. (Deed book T-1-149). Perhaps Harter used this location for his early store.

Feb. 27, 1850, John M. and Sarah Harter sold lot 33 to Michael Colliflower for $900. (Deed book T-1-151). Feb. 28, 1850, Michael Colliflower also bought lot 34 for $100. (Deedbook T-1-150)

Putman Building

June 21, 1850, Michael and Mary Colliflower sold lots 33 and 34 to James Wilcox for $400. (Deed book T-1-456). Why did Colliflower sell the lots within four months at such a reduced price? Perhaps a fire had burned the original building on lot 33, and Colliflowers' plans with it.

July 19, 1856, the Darke County sheriff sold lots 33 and 34 to David Putman for $625. It had been ordered sold April 1856 in Court of Common Pleas following James Wilcox Sr.'s death. (Common Pleas court records 0-1-491)

David Putman "returned to Palestine in the spring (1856) and engaged in the grocery business, which he continued till the spring of 1861, when he closed out his stock..." (1880 *History of Darke County*, pg. 587)

Herman Ross notes that when Col. Putman returned from the War, he bought a talking parrot which he hung on his porch on the building. When farmers came to town their dogs would follow. The parrot would call to the dogs and when he had a group of dogs together he would say "Sickem" and one big dog fight would break out.

Mary Burkheimer relates the building had been a residence as long as she remembers. Her father, Neils Putnam Simison, sold the building in 1913 and moved to Richmond. The building was used for school classes that fall.

Herman Ross recalls the high fence around the building and the barn on the back end of the building used for horses.

The building has been used for barber shop, Bill Poling pool room and tavern. Leo and May Coppess had a tavern and restaurant here prior to Red and Ruth Thwaits.

Old Civil War Veterans met in top floor. Boy Scouts also used the Putnam Bldg.

Tannery

The earliest mention of tanners is the 1850 census where John C. Deem and William C. Deem list their occupation as tanners.

William C. Deem sold lots 31, 32, 33 and west 1/3 part of 34 and 35 to George Kester for $3,000 in April 8, 1857. (Deed book G-2-131).

The 1857 directory of Palestine lists Abraham Dickey as a tanner.

Francis Marion Eidson "... in 1860 came to Palestine, Darke county, buying the tannery from George Kester at that place and forming a partnership with Jonathan Hardin. The following spring, however, when President Lincoln issued his call for seventy-five thousand men to assist in putting down the rebellion, he enlisted for three months in Company K, Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and left his business in the hands of his partner..."

"Upon receiving his discharge in July 1861, Mr. Eidson returned home and resumed the tanning business. Shortly afterward he was appointed by the military authorities to take the poll of German township, preparatory to a draft that was being contemplated and was afterward made..."

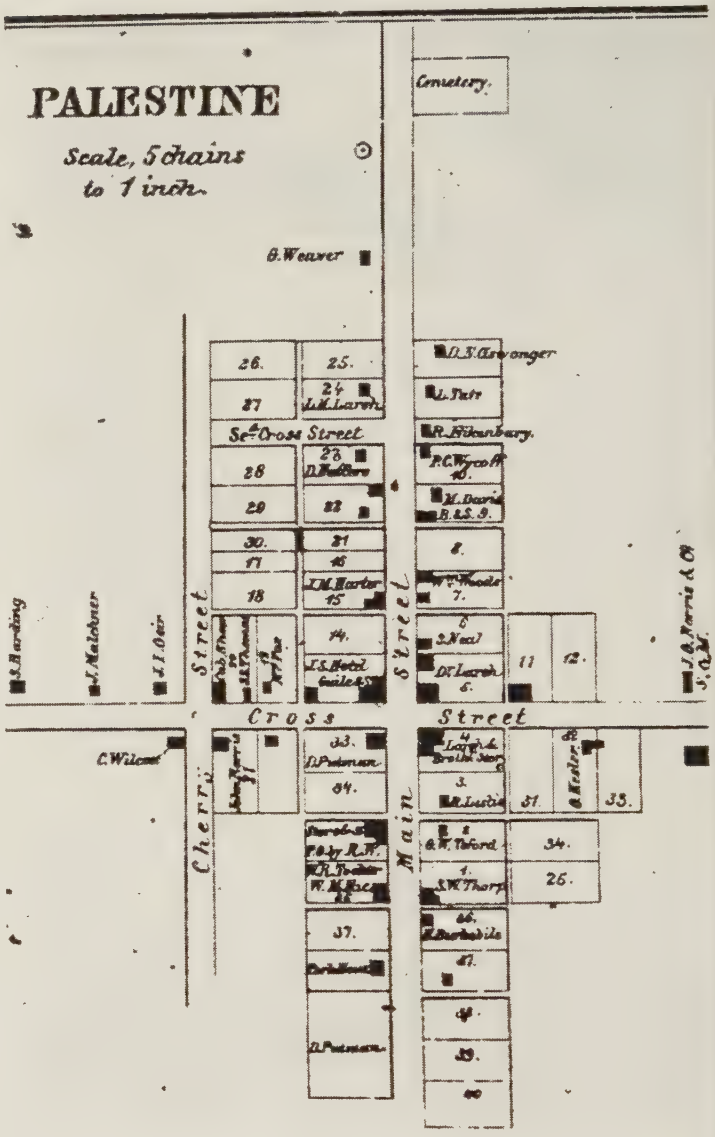
"In 1864, Mr. Eidson purchased his partner's interest in the tanning business, and putting all his energy into the same he was soon doing an extensive business. Employing extra help, he accumulated a large stock of finished and unfinished stock, but on the night of February 14, 1865, his plant and the entire contents of the building were destroyed by fire, at a total loss of five thousand dollars, as there was no insurance upon the property. With characteristic energy, however, he rebuilt on the old site and about the same time entered into negotiations with Elisha Dawes, of Greenville, which resulted in selling Mr. Dawes a half interest in the Palestine tannery, and he himself buying a half interest in Mr. Dawes' tannery business in Greenville. Mr. Eidson then moved to Greenville to assume charge of the manufacturing part of the business. They carried on business together to their mutual profit and satisfaction for three years, when our subject purchased his partner's interest.

By 1875 Solomon B. Miller has the tanyard.

When Omar and Bill Wilson helped dig out for septic tanks for the filling station, they ran into wooden plank walls at about 4½ feet depth that went at least 6 feet deep. These were probably remnants of vats for the old tannery.

Cabinet Maker

Sometime in the early 1850's, Samuel S. Thomas, "then engaged in the same line of business (cabinent-making) for himself at Palestine for about two years. At the end of that time he located upon the farm in German township where he now resides, though he continued to work at this trade in connection with farming for some years." (1900 *Biographical History of Darke County*, pg. 488)



1857

The 1857 Atlas of Darke County offers the following directory:

Larch & Brother, merchants
Reeder & Woods, merchants
David Putman, grocery store
Dr. P.M. Larch, M.D.
Samuel Sullivan, tailer
Abraham Dickey, tanner
J.G. Norris & Co., millers
J.F. Gier, boot and shoe maker
Daniel Neiswenger, cabinet maker
Joseph Burgess, justice of the peace
Reuben Eikenbery, hotel

Crandal House

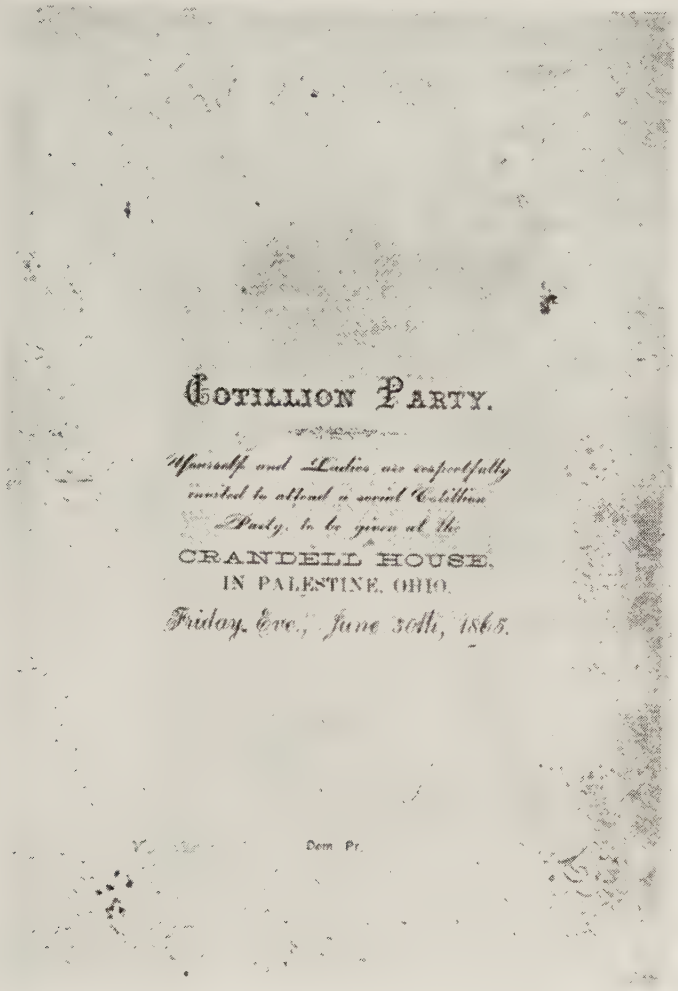
This original hotel building existed as early as 1857 under the apparent directorship of Reuben Eikenbury.

It was the scene of many social events attended by people

from Greenville.

The hotel was then run by Joseph Burgess.

"Crandell House, Palestine, Darke Co., Ohio, Jos. Burges, Proprietor. This well-known house has been refitted and re-furnished anew, and the proprietor is now prepared to accommodate travelers and others in the very best style. September 4, 1867-68." (Greenville newspaper)



COTILLION PARTY.

Yourself and Ladies are respectfully invited to attend a social Cotillion Party, to be given at the

CRANDELL HOUSE,
IN PALESTINE, OHIO,
Friday, Eve., June 30th, 1865.

Dem Pr.

"Darke Co. Pioneer Boasts Fine Memory": from an old newspaper interview with Mrs. Malinda Wilcox, 92, at the time, gives this account of Crandall House:

"The most interesting period of my life was when I operated the old Crandall tavern here in Palestine. This was in the early years of my married life, and although a part of the old structure is still standing, it looks as if the wind could shake it to bits most any time. Christmas, New Years, and the Fourth of July were the highlights of the dear, dear day. It was then the 'social elect' of Greenville would gather at the old Crandall Inn. They paid $2 for a ticket that admitted two to partake of a gorgeous supper - we did not call them dinners - and dance all night, 'til broad daylight, if they felt like it. The crowd usually had a private room upstairs - tch! tch! The music consisted of two local violin and one bass viol player, and the merriment was always clean and wholesome. One thing that stands out above all else in the old tavern days concerns the maid of all work, who used to wash up all the dishes after the great repasts and to whom I would give quantities of left-over dainties and who progressed socially enough to occupy rooms in the remodeled tavern later."

In 1889, A. Cloyd ran the Palestine Hotel.

Around 1905 a fire damaged the hotel. Norman Teaford who had the hotel gave a portion of it to Ellen Tucker to live in on the east side of Main Street. Another portion of the hotel was moved and used as a barn by Norman Teaford.

Section of Crandal House Hotel used for Tucker residence.

1860 Census

Those in Palestine include David Putman merchant, J.L. Jones merchant, Hiram Allen pedler, J.G. Norris miller, Samuel Harding carpenter, Absolem Darkus shoemaker, A. Brown pedler, J.A. Jobes doctor, A.W. Crowell wagonmaker, Jos. Burgess Sud hirse (?) keeper, John Gaier Grar Keeper, Wm. Crandell Hotel Keeper, John L. Focht Fan maker, George Stebeson Silver smith, Squire Dickey doctor, Jacob Truly gunsmith, Jeremiah Sulivan tailor, Lester Shaw cabinent maker, William Schnouse harness maker, George Moore blacksmith, William Tucker Fan maker, John Geyer chairmaker, Gabel Weaver sawyer, John Bouersore miller, James Wright wagonmaker, Tumis Denise blacksmith.

Those in German township at this census were: Elias Lantz cooper, Sam Troutwine basketmaker, Henry Smelker pumpmaker, Wm. D. McClellen blacksmith, David Wilcox sawyer, Jas. Ketring sawyer, Nathaniel Ross (age 78) U.B. minister, Elias Clapp miller, Thomas Stapleton carpenter, Eli Armacost school teacher, Amanda Armacost school teacher, James Harding blacksmith, Windsin Wiggs merchant, Christian Rush daily laborer, Abner Haines wagon maker, Henry Frank apprentice to wagonmaker, Robert Ross minister, Henry Eller carpenter, Wm. Roland blacksmith, John G. Haines carpenter, Abel Haines wagonmaker, Henry Oswalt brickmason, Henry Weaver carpenter, Paul Weaver carpenter, Joseph Smith ditcher, Reason Brown Rum Seller.

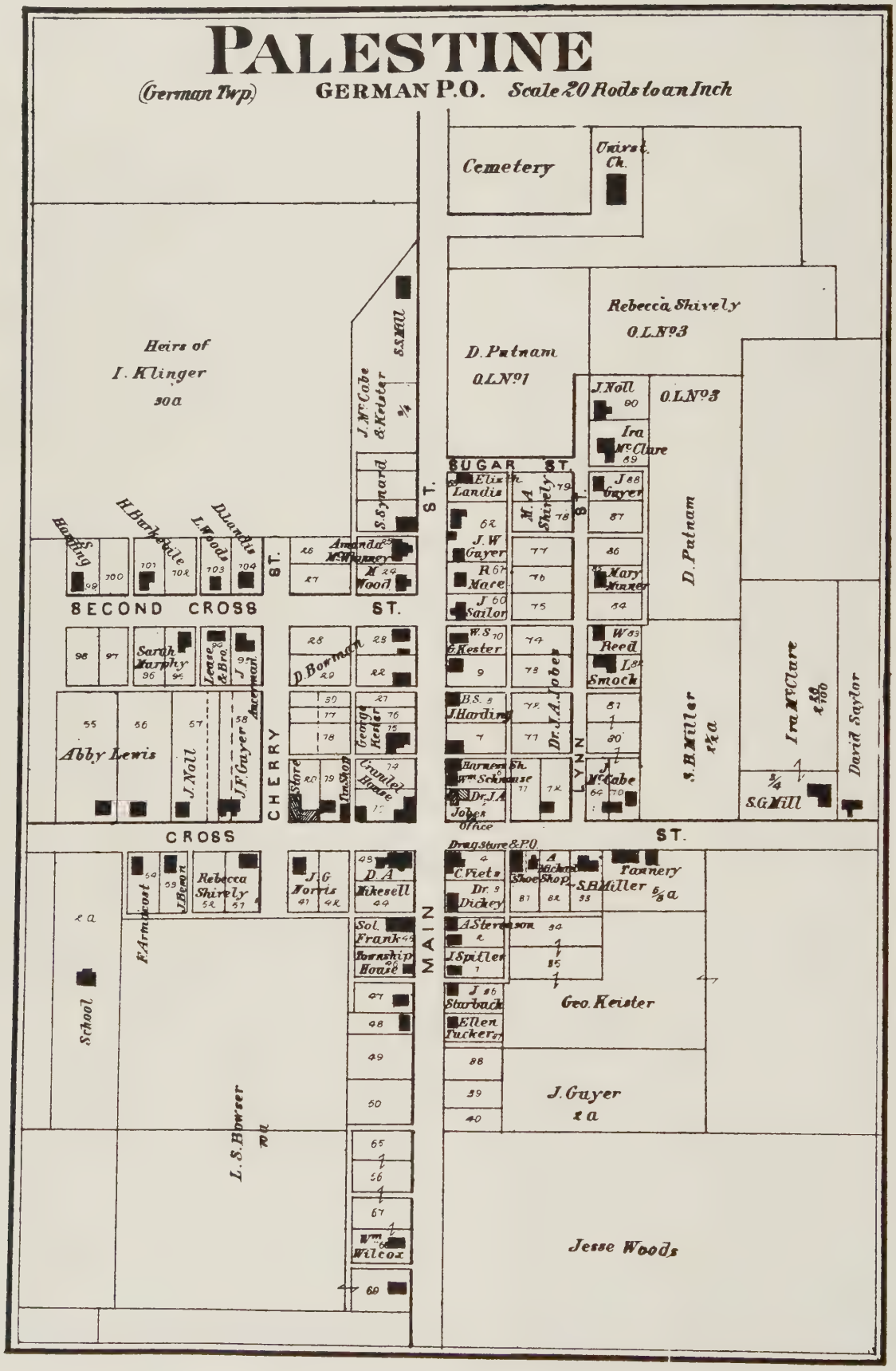
1867, 1868, & 1869 Additions

Lots 65-69 were included in the addition to Palestine laid out by John G. Norris. These lots fronted on the Palestine, Braffitsville, New Paris and New Westville Turnpike, May 9, 1867. (Deed book Vol. 1-127)

Aug. 19, 1868, David Putman, John A. Jobes, and James McCabe laid out Putman's Addition. Lots 74-90 and outlots

1, 2, & 3 belonging to Putman; lot 70 to James McCabe; and lots 71, 72, and 73 to John A. Jobes. (Town Plat Book #1, pg. 141)

Eakin's Addition included lots 91-105 and were laid out by Benjamin Eakins January 1, 1869. (Deed book Vol. 2-3)



1875 Palestine

Clapp Store 1900 - Frank & Lessie Clapp, baby Marion Clapp. Charles Viets earlier used this building for drug store and post office.

HARNESS, SADDLES, &C.
WOE, JANUARY!
"Dar, now, I dun tole de boss it war no youst a putten dem harness on dis hoss. He orter got Wm. Schnaus to make 'em, and den he'd saved all dis trouble."
The largest, best and most complete stock of
HARNESS & HORSE FURNISHING GOODS
in the County will be found at
WM. SCHNAUS', Palestine, Ohio.
July 10, 78-6m.

1870 Census

This census lists the following in Palestine: Soleman Miller shoemaker, John Spicler miller, John R. Long house plasterer, William Roland blacksmith, Mathew Emersin express messenger, John Saylor house carpenter, Philip Saylor house carpenter, James T. Saylor house carpenter, Absalem Darcus shoemaker, David Putman lawyer, Mills Siminson clerk in dry goods and hardward store, John Schmidt blacksmith, Randell Hagerman blacksmith, James McCabe miller flour mill, John R. Geyer cabinent maker, John S. Geyer retail grocer, Jacob Long retail grocer, Harmon Long painter, Lewis Bowser shoemaker, James Harding blacksmith, Alfred Bare brick mason, Jacob Leas retail grocer, John Leas retail grocer, Squire Dickey physician, James Williams physician, John A. Jobes physician, Ira McClure miller, Alfred Brown cabinent maker, Thomas Bickel plasterer, John Norris retail dry goods merchant, Alfred Leas clerk dry goods, William Schnous sadle and harness maker, Abel Haines wagon maker, James Burgess shoemaker, George Kester wagonmaker (lot 10).

Also in the township were David Hollinger woolen mill laborer, Samuel Harding house carpenter, John Haines wagon maker, Jacob Ross school teacher, Charles Harp school teacher, John Starbuck house carpenter, Henry Hiper blacksmith, John Wade apprentice to barber, William Clemens Minister of Gospel, William Bidle house carpenter, and James Ochey stone mason.

1875

The next view is given by the *Atlas of Darke County, Ohio* published 1875.

Joseph Burgess, proprietor of Crandell House.

Edmond Lockett, teacher and engineer.

J.A. Jobes, M.D., physician and surgeon.

James McCabe & Kester, proprietors of steam saw mill, manufacturers of lumber, and dealers in lumber and logs.

Ira McClure, proprietor of steam grist mill, manufacturer of flour, feed, and meal, and c. dealer in grain.

S.B. Miller, proprietor of tannery, manufacturer of all kinds of domestic leather, manufacturer of boots and shoes.

Notary Public and Justice of the Peace, Township Clerk.

Dr. Chas. Viets, physician and druggist.

James Harding, blacksmithing of all kinds done to order (lot 8).

A.B. Rush, physician, farmer, and stock dealer, post office New Madison.

Eli Armacost, teacher and surveyor.

J.W. Shively, butcher and dealer in meats.

Dayton Man Writes Vivid Story About Darke County Town

"The following graphic and amusing sketch about early Palestine, neighboring Darke County town, was penned by Charles L. Miller, of Dayton, who was born there and spent his early childhood in the village. Many of our fellow citizens know the author and also knew his wife, the former Miss Hattie Kerst, who passed away several years ago. While the writer of this article enjoys talking over 'old times' he does not dwell in the past but takes an active part in the daily business life of Dayton. He has almost reached four score years in age yet rejoices in his ability to 'carry on'. We are pleased to print his gem of reminiscent ray." This article in Dayton paper July 1938.

"The Palestine Parade"

by Charles Lincoln Miller

"It was evening. I had come home tired and worn. I'll content from the grind of the day I sat down to listen to the soft strains of music from the ether. I felt somewhat listless at first, but the refrain of a song popular fifty years ago, 'The Man on the Flying Trapeze,' awakened in me memories of long ago, memories of my home town of Palestine. In this small town I had lived and learned from the trundle bed to the sprouting of the mustache.

"A panoramic view of Palestine presents a picture of a typical small town of the seventies and eighties. In this village where railroad never ran and where printing press never soiled white pages with unkindly hearsay stories in all its hundred years of existence, the stage was set for the play of human action and reaction, and touches of sunshine and shadow made up a mosaic of life that may not have been great but was sublime in its very simplicity.

"In addition to the usual trading posts found in small towns of the present day there were, I think, three peculiar to that period: the wagon maker's shop, the grist mill, and the tanyard. Even now I see the long sign spanning the full width of the tanner's shop: 'Cash for Hides and Bark -Leather and Fish Oil for Sale'. Here along the tanbark walk, as a barefoot boy scantily arrayed in patched overalls, hanging precariously by one suspender, and under a leaky straw hat, I whiled many pleasant summer hours away.

"There were two churches in Palestine, and these were rivals in the ethics of religion. The steeples of each of these churches pointed up attempting to pierce the blue ethereal. The one with the highest steeple was accorded the first place in the community. This was the psychology of the village moralist.

"Human beings were then as now the most engrossing part of the life of a village. Several characters are etched in my memory and stand out as distinct as a lone oak in a clearing.

"Our good family doctor is the first of these wholesome personalities. He was just one of the noble profession of those days - cheery, kindly, courageous, and sympathetic whose doses were healing but whose words and heart were even more so. He was always obedient to a call, no matter how late the hour at night. Oftimes utterly weary in body, his eyelids would close in restful sleep; old Jane, his faithful gray mare, would bring him safely to the very door of the stable, when the stop would awaken the good doctor. Although he fed me on bitter doses of quinine all through the fever and ague age, I loved him dearly and regarded him as a father next to my own.

"My father was not only proprietor of the tanyard and of a boot and shoe shop, but was as well the squire of the community. As a youngster, I hung around the shoe shop, which was also the seat of justice, and imbibed some little legal knowledge and law terminology which I found useful in later life.

"One friendly colored citizen who was given the use of high sounding words was in the habit of dropping in from the 'settlement', as the colored neighborhood nearby was called, about once each week; his salutation was always 'Well, Squire, how's litigation?'

"My father was a man of strict habits, which made him somewhat exacting, but kindly and beloved not only by his own family but by the young people for miles around. These young people, and some not so young, seemed to give him the preference when there was a matrimonial knot to be tied. In fact, he became quite a lively competitor of the resident preacher in performing these ceremonies.

"His remuneration for this sacred service ranged all the way from a promise to pay later to two bushels of potatoes; these perquisites came usually from couples of the 'settlement'. From others he received bills of different denominations which rested proudly in his vest pocket until he returned home to give an account of the wedding.

"Many were the interesting and almost ludicrous experiences connected with his 'marrying' business. In one instance, he and the guests arrived ahead of the groom to the small two-room house the groom at length came from his work, not yet attired for the ceremony. As the house was so compact, one room was necessarily living room, bedroom, parlor and all. By placing the bed, which had a tall headboard in ye olden style, across a corner of the room a neat dressing room was improvised. Deftly edging into this secluded corner, the groom emerged soon after with a broad smile, the marriage license and a brand new suit of clothes. The wedding then went merrily on.

"Co-worker with the Squire in upholding the dignity of the law, was the village constable. He was a respected personality and an influence for keeping individuals in the straight and narrow path. As I recall him now I revere him in memory, but I think at that time I respected him without question on account of the big badge he wore and also from the fact that he had red hair.

"There were the usual characters that writers have described as indigenous to the small town. One was Bill. He was always hanging around on the outer edge of the crowd with nothing much to say. The eight or ten who occupied the reserved seats, mostly of wooden store boxes, in front of the tavern and who settled the affairs of states regularly each

week, did all the talking. Bill would listen and smile, but never did any of the settling.

"Bill was content to go around under the same hat for twenty years or more. The reason for this was that it got greasy and just wouldn't wear out, and Bill was economical and not proud. He worked on week days in overalls and rested in them fifty-two Sundays in the year. He was a bachelor from choice, although he need not have done the choosing, as there was not one of the gentler sex in the whole country who would have tied up with him. Nearly as old as the town itself, he was one of the landmarks.

"The school teachers who came into the Palestine community usually impressed the three school directors so favorably that they remained to teach for two or three years and became neighbors and friends. It was the day when some of them wielded the birch but, I think, never with malice. The impression has remained with me through the years that the teacher's heart went out to the big, unrestrained boy who had to take a licking with his coat off, much more than to the ninety and nine well behaved.

"It was the day of the McGuffey Readers. There is no method of calculating the rich, wholesome influence that has gone down the corridors of time from the contents of those Readers.

"I pay my respects in silence and in the happy peace and sublime inspiration that are mine from appropriating portions of those 'holy' texts. When I contemplate those carefree days under the tutorship of men whose love was as strong as their faults made them weak, I am convinced that human nature is balanced in the scales - both human and divine. And so it ever is. We have yet to see perfection, and we have yet to fail utterly from rising above our human frailities. It is worth the striving. Hope abides and faith still carries on.

"In the schools came the red letter days - those wonderful Friday afternoons. It was then that the young Demostenes and Ciceros began to soar above the earth. The only airplanes of the day were the imaginations of youth. And those imaginations rose away up into the stratosphere without compass and without fear of any unknown landing.

"All grades were housed in the little red schoolhouse of one room. Thus it was that the 'pieces' spoken on Friday afternoons ranged from 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' to 'Rienze's Address to the Romans'. Although my attempts resulted in a feeble type of oratory, they did give me an appreciation of literature and an inclination to sometimes indulge in the writing of verse.

"The young folks of Palestine had always hilarious good times without being worried about the outlay of money. There were many good horses driven to piano-bed buggies, spring wagons and sleighs. The town boasted but one phaeton buggy and one piano; the owners, however, were not 'uppish'. Every winter the snow lay thick and white over the countryside. The sleighs were built quite narrow, and the necessity of sitting close to Mollie Ann to keep warm was not considered much of a fault.

"Rarely did the young man drop in to see his best girl more often than twice a month, and not that frequently in the beginning. The date was usually set for Saturday night and took place with the girl's papa and mamma in the offing. Later when they came into the room at a certain stroke of the family clock, their entrance was a goodnight sign for the young swain. The young folks did not mind, however, and seemed to understand how to make haste slowly and that 'sweet dalliance' was the fine technique of courtship.

"It is restful to get away from the forced impulses of the present bewildering days, and so this peaceful picture of my home town came to me as a healing antidote. In the rush of the madding crowd when we so often find ourselves reaching out for things we cannot have and engendering a resentment as senseless as a dog baying at the moon, we have to seek for the real values. These we find in friends and friendship. It is a fact that, in all this whirligig of life, human tides constitute the only quantity that runs true to form. New and difficult situations bring different behavior, but with it all people remain about the same - a compounds static of wise and foolish, proud and humble, strong and weak, believing and doubting, even as of old. After all our lives are just as rich as the number and type of friends we possess, and it seemed, as I thought back on those former days, that 'old friends are best,' that there is something in the halycon days of youth that can somehow never be acquired in later life, that can never be outlived but takes on a deeper sense and meaning as the years lead us on over the crest of the hill."

1877-1878

The *Greenville Directory* for 1877-1878 was published by Emerson and Thompson, and provides these businesses:

Burgess Joseph, hotel
Harding James, blacksmith
Calderwood G.M., physician and surgeon
Keester Solomon, dry goods and groceries
McClure Ira, grist mill
McCabe James, Saw Mill and dealer in lumber
Miller S.B., tan yard boot and shoe manufacturer, Justice of Peace
Shively J.W., butcher and dealer in stock
Smith Peter, blacksmith German township
Viets Chas, physician and druggist (lot 4)
Viets Chas, postmaster

James Harding Blacksmith Shop

Incorporation

Sept. 3, 1879, several Palestine residents signed a petition to incorporate the town of Palestine. The described limits contained about 300 inhabitants, and appointed David Putman their agent to present the petition to incorporate in the name of the Incorporated Village of Palestine. (Deed book Vol. 2-94)

Those petitioning were: T.P. Schmitt, Solomon Frank, J.M. Starbuck, David Putman, John A. Leas, A.B. Steinmetz, Charles Harp, H.W. Fox, S.B. Miller, C.C. Sater, David Ketring Sr., David Kester, L.J. Spencer, F.P. Harding, J.K. Long, Wm. Schuaus, Philip Trabing, L.P. Steilor, David W. Saylor, Henry Kike, S. Leslie, S. Kester, John Gottsehall, James J. Alexander, Daniel Kester, John Dickson, Samuel Stump, John A. Spitter, Noah Stephens, Charles M. Switzer, Ira McClure, John J. Roland, Samuel Roland, William Smith, John Knoll, J.B. Leuwell, O.P. McCabe, P.J. Saylor, G.W. McClure, B.F. Ketring, Leigh Cloyd, Henry Smelker, J.F. Mace, George McCabe, J.F. Guyer, J.C. Snyder, Jacob Wimer, George W. Davis, and G.M. Calderwood.

Early Businesses

Among early businesses mentioned in a 1933 "Dayton Daily News" article are Drs. Tennell and Sater, David Putnam lawyer, McCabe & Smelker undertakers.

1880 Census

Living in Palestine at the time of this census were: Solomon B. Miller (48) boot and shoemaker, James E. Miller (16) apprentice to shoemaker, Alfred Bair (45) brickmason, Mills P. Simison (29) retail druggist, John Norris (56) carpenter, Mary E. Norris (26) dress maker, Freemont Norris (22) apprentice to carpenter, Jacob Shively (56) butchering, George McClellan (40) tinners shop, Jefferson Caskey (29) trading horses, Geo. M. Calderwood (30) physician, Jacob Long (64) retail grocer, Marshal Woods (27) plasterer, Charles C. Sater (36) physician, Joseph Burgess (51) Hotel keeper, Geo. W. Dalley (42) school teacher, Isaac Collins (28) works in harness shop, James McCabe (54) runs sawmill, Orlando P. McCabe (23) school teaching, Julia M. Stover (23) works in tailor shop, Philip Saylor (29) carpenter, John Roland (27) works in tin shop, Jacob Wimer (34) miller in grist, James F. Saylor (44) carpenter, George E. Saylor (20) carpenter, Henry Hiper (32) blacksmith, August Hiper (21) brother and apprentice to blacksmith, Martha Klinger (23) dressmaker, John Scynod (35) runs saw mill, Lewis Stahr (30) works in harness shop, Samuel Roland (30) wagonmaker, Silas Harding (30) blacksmith, J.B. Tennell (47) physician, Ann M. Bowser (24) dressmaker, John F. Mace (23) carpenter, George Kester (71) wagon maker, George Davis (36) retails agriculture, William Olds (21) Retailer in Agriculture, Lloid S. Brown (22) retail grocer, David Putman (58) Attorney at Law, Milton Starbuck (44) carpenter, John P. Smith (56) blacksmith, William A. Smith (22) apprentice blacksmith, Hugh L. Hill (24) retail grocer, Daniel Kester (58) horseman, Levina Kauffman (40) washwoman, Ellen Tucker (40) washwoman, William Wilcox (45) carpenter, Benjamin F. Ketring (26) carpenter, Henry Smelker (47) pumpmaker, Oliver P. Wilcox (27) teacher, Frank Harding (27) blacksmith, Henry Burkebile (49) carpenter, George McCabe (48) teamster, Lemuel J. Spencer (39) minister, Weller Harding (21) carpenter, William O. Harding (18) carpenter, Lewis Woods (43) carpenter, John Long (38) plasterer, Henry W. Fox (40) retail grocer, Charles Harp (30) school teacher, Soloman Frank (60) cooper.

Bill Siniard with John, Dewey, and Albert. Log house was first Saylor then Keister place, then Siniard house. Grandpa John Henderson Siniard Sr. had the sawmill. Located just north of lot 25.

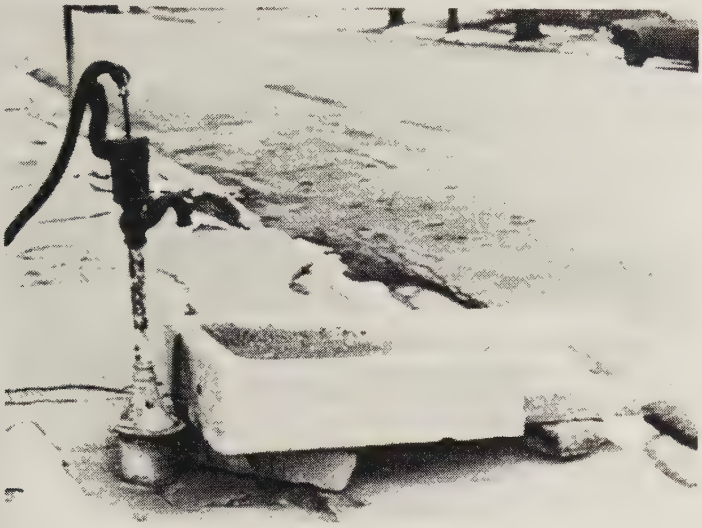
Others in the township this census were: Leander Sweney plasterer, Noah W. Green retail grocer and farmer, John Speaker ditcher, Ananice McFarlon wood choper, Samuel Sanders carpenter, Auston Norton wood chopper, David H. Clear blacksmith, Robert Reed wood chopper, Sarah Putterbaugh school teacher, Comodor P. Clemens minister, Alexander Mason stone mason, Charles Revels ditcher, Reuben Smith barber, Comodore Carpenter barber, John Rush physician, Clarrisa Sink school teacher, Reason Enochs carpenter, Julian G. McCown works in brick yard, Houston McCown works in brick yard, Alice McCown school teacher, John Smith ditcher, Gabrel Smith ditcher, John Alexander ditcher, John Davis carpenter, Thomas P. Loudenslager In Turning factory, Elizabeth Thomas school teacher, Chesterfield Albright butcher, John W. Triester works in carriage shop, John C. Heck photographer, William W. Eppe school teacher, Rebet Houston fitting up windpump, William S. Mattochs fitting up wind pump, John Aukerman school teacher, William J. Reed brickmason, Libbie Teaford dress maker, William M. Harris carpenter, Louis Well painter, Bermet Cloyd picture framer.

Town Council Minutes

Town Council - The Palestine Council meeting book for April 13, 1880 shows the following officers: S.B. Miller, mayor; Lewis Woods, marshall; O.P. Wilcox, clerk; David Putman, treasurer; and councilmen C.C. Sater, J.M. Starbuck, J.W. Shively, Soloman Frank, J.P. Schmidt, and James McCabe.

Town Pump - May 6, 1880, town council records show a committee appointed to secure the release of the well in front of the Palestine Hotel and to put pump in same.

March 12, the committee filed relinquishment of claim to said well to said corporation signed by Joseph and Elizabeth Burgess. Total cost for pump, trough and c. $12.80.



Street Commissioner - March 12, 1880, the street commissioner ordered out all able bodied male persons between 21-55 resident of corporation to perform by himself or substitute two days labor upon the streets alleys and public roads or highways that lie within corporate limits under direction of street commissioner between May 1st and Oct. 1st 1880.

Calaboose - April 28, 1880, committee appointed at previous meeting to report on site place and cost of calaboose report that there can be a site obtained from S.B. Miller and that the probable cost will be sixty dollars.

May 26, 1880, Lewis Woods bid $16 to build prison.

Jan. 5, 1882, Sol Frank and S.M. Harding committee to confer with township trustees in regard to getting the privilege of removing the prison of the corporation upon the township lot.

April 10, 1884, awarded contract for removal of prison from its present location to a location on the township lot as per agreement with township trustees and prison to be removed and permanently placed in location.

Photo of Town Hall taken May 1966.

Horse Thief Assn. in front of Town Hall, Jan., 1963.
l. to r. - W.R. Ferguson, Mac Ross, Jess Ross, Roy Price (leaning on post), Oral Lowdenslager, Lee Graham. back row l. to r. -Hiram Hunt, Lonnie Burns, Paul Rush, Jess Mikesell. ? Two boys Richard Graham and Joe Singer.

Town Hall - Shown on lot #11 1888 plat. Rosanna and Jno P. Schmidt sold lot to German trustees James Wilcox, Isaac M. Ross, and Charles Clemens Aug. 21, 1880. (Deed Book Vol. 79-465)

April 13, 1880 Ordinance - Posted at:

M.P. Simison's Drug Store
Hill and Brown's Dry Goods Store
Fox and Harp Grocery
Joseph Burgess Hotel
J.W. Long's Grocery
McClellan and Aukerman Tin Store

Jacob Long's Saloon

One of the most interesting pieces of Palestine history is recorded in various February 1881 issues of the "Greenville Democrat":

"ALL TORN UP. - Champion Crusaders of Darke on a Tare. - With Axes and Hatchets in Hand. - A Solid Column of Brave Women Completely Riddle - The Saloon and Pool Room of Jacob Long at Palestine, - Smashing the Pool Table into Fire Wood, Tapping Wiskey Barrels With Axes and Causing the Liquor to Flow Like Water Under Their Feet. Mr. Long Brings Suit for $5,000 Damages Against 35

Citizens of Palestine - A Fat Take for the Lawyers. -

"The quiet little village of Palestine was thrown into a state of commotion on Friday afternoon by an onslaught, made by the women of Palestine and vicinity upon the saloon kept by Jacob Long. Our reporter gives the following account of the 'smash up': Mr. Long kept a grocery store in the front part of the building, and in the back part he had a bar and pool table. The good people of the place were willing to patronize him as long as he would deal only in groceries; but as to the saloon they would not tolerate him in that. As it had got to be a regular rendezvous for men and boys, who went there to play pool and drink, thus spending their precious time to the neglect of other business, setting a bad example for the young boys who were naturally drawn there by the enticing game of pool, the good mothers, wives and sisters looked around for a remedy; and by kind counsel endeavored to get Long to take his pool table home and dispense with his selling of liquors, offering to do all they could in patronizing him in the grocery. But Long turned a deaf ear; and the women, to make it more binding, gave him fair warning as to what they would do if he still kept up the saloon. They delayed the day, thinking he might repent and ward off the consequences that would follow should the onslaught be made. But patience had ceased to be a virtue, when they looked upon their homes and saw the seeds of discord and sorrow, sown by willing hands, that would sooner or later bring them down in sorrow, and on Friday, about 4 o'clock, there was an unusual stir among the women in town, and it was not long till the anxious lookers-on saw what was going to transpire. They formed in line, with axes and hatchets in hand, and, heading the columns towards the saloon, they marched on with solid column and determined hearts till they arrived at that place; marching in and through to the back room where the pool table was, they set to work at once to demolish it. When this was done, they lacked strength and courage to attack the whiskey barrels. An old pioneer lady, hearing of the 'halt' in the proceedings, shouldered her ax and marched down at once to the scene of conflict. When she entered the door a shout loud and long went up; and it was not long when she let her ax drop on a whisky barrel till the spirits flowed all over the room. They kept on breaking and smashing until the ranch was completely gutted, as far as the saloon was concerned, not leaving a bottle or glass of any descriptin for the use of poor disconsolate Jacob Long, whose spirits were flowing out before his eyes. When all was done, they bid him good-day and departed to their homes in peace and quietude.

Suit Brought For $5,000 Damages

"On Monday last Mr. Long brought suit against the following men and women in the Common Pleas Court for $5,000 damages:

Messrs.: Henry Smelker, Abram Kauffman, Daniel Keister, N.L. and George Hill, Sol. Frank, Lewis Bowser, John Roland, Levi Woods, Jos. Snyder, Jas. Wilcox, Eddie and Burnet Cloyd, and Wm. Klinger; Cath. Smelker, Ellen Tucker, Mrs. Abram Kauffman, Mrs. D. Keister, Mrs. Geo. Hill, Ann Rupe, Susannah Bowser, Cora Smelker, Dolly and Retta Stover, Matilda Roland, Mrs. Levi Woods, Rebecca Snyder, Eliz. Wilcox, Ida, Ellen, Mrs. B. and Elias Cloyd, Maud Brown, Mrs. W. Klinger, and Jerusha Klinger. The time given defendants to answer until March 26th.

"Last Wednesday afternoon thirty-one of the Palestine crusaders were arrested and brought before 'Squire W.H. Dill, in the Probate Court Room, for trial, by the Sheriff and De.-Sheriff. All they had to do to get them to come was to serve the warrants. They appeared to be in a good humor over the business that brought them in, though as time passed by they became very much interested in the proceedings and chatted and gazed around till they had flushed faces and felt like being at home. The crowd that gathered in the room to see them did nothing but stare at them, and make foolish remarks, just as though they were looking at a cage of monkeys. It was evident that the ladies were somewhat embarrassed, and that the men had to arrange matters with the lawyers, but they bore the pressure bravely. The names of the defendants were called, thirty-one of whom responded after a little delay, but two of those that the Sheriff had warrants for could not be found. Of the thirty-one arrested, six were dismissed, and twenty-five remained charged as per affidavit. The attorneys for the defense said that they would waive an examination, whereupon the Court held the twenty-five for their appearance in Common Pleas Court in the sum of $300 each, which was promptly given. This is the shape in which the case will stand until June 6th, when it will be called up for a hearing.

"Going back to the cause of the 'smash-up' at Palestine, it is said that Mr. Long, while running his saloon, sold liquor to minors, kept a regular hell-hole, and c., and c., and as he has brought suit for damages resulting from the 'smash-up', the defendants propose to have 16 indictments found against him. That may bring on a compromise, and perhaps it won't.

"The temperance people deny that they know anything at all of the Notice received by Mr. Long 'to leave Palestine or suffer the fate of Wesley Guyer' - death at the hands of a mob. Mr. Long had good reasons for obeying the 'command' since similar orders were executed on Guyer and Wade, and their murderers have not been discovered. One, not knowing these facts, might think it was a 'scare', but history says it wasn't. It was mailed at New Madison, and who sent it is a mysterious and unanswered question. A well-founded truth presents itself as to the question - Murder will out."

"It is rumored about here that Jacob Long, the man who kept the Palestine saloon and pool-table, has received a letter commanding him to leave the county, sent by a secret organization. We hope the report is not true. Later - Mr. Long says he got a notice to leave, which he gave to his lawyers, but refused to tell what it demanded of him. However, he has left Palestine, and now resides here. He has property there, but is afraid to live there since the notice was sent him." (Greenville paper)

More Town Council Minutes

March 1881 Ordinance Posting:

H.V.D. Rupe grocery
Wilson dry goods store
Fox and Harp grocery
M.P. Simison Drug Store
Joseph Burgess Hotel

April 2, 1881 Posting:

Eli Wilson store

Fox and Harp Grocery
Rush and Michael Drug Store (lot 31)
Joseph Burgess Hotel
Halleck Rupe grocery

Early Business:
Harding and Bro blacksmithing
Henry Hipers blacksmith shop Main St.
1882 - S.B. Miller shoe shop
1884 - Miller's gravel pit

Sidewalks - June 24, 1886, ordinance establishing sidewalks and gutters. Sidewalks to be established each side of Main, Main Cross, Second Cross, Cherry, Lynn, and Sugar streets - to be graveled sufficiently to be passable at any time of year. Also gutters to be established along sidewalks and streets. Property owners duty to excavate gutters at own expense.

Sept. 30, 1912, ordinance 75, all sidewalks hereafter constructed of cement.

Old Well - March 3, 1887, fill old well near D. Putman's residence.

Hog Pens - Aug. 10, 1888, Motion for the Council to instruct the Mayor to notify David Harter to remove his hog pen as it is declared to be a public nuisance by said council.

1888 Palestine

1888

The 1888 plat book lists these businesses:

Dr. A.B. Rush, physician and surgeon

David Harter, proprietor of first-class meat market at Palestine. Keeps good fresh meats on hand at all times.

Hugh Armstrong and David Harter, dealers in J.J. Case Binders, Steam Engines, Threshers, Saw Mills, Wagons, Buggies, Plows and all kinds of Farm Implements, Palestine.

J.C. Triester, Proprietor of Wagon and Carriage Shop. Special attention given to repairing both light and heavy work. Painting, trimming and repairs of all kinds neatly and promptly done, Palestine.

Fire Protection

April 19, 1888, the town council approved a motion to buy six ladders to be used by the public in case of fire. Bought two 24' and four 16'.

Oct. 18, 1888, motion for mayor to appoint a committee of two for purpose of examining C.A. Cobles spring wagon for purpose of making trux for hauling the ladders. Committee was Lewis Woods and Wm. Wilcox.

Omar Dill recalls the Parent-McCabe store building that burned about 1903, located at the alley east of the present Rush's Store. They had a bucket brigade and got water from the pumps; there were two pumps at that time in the center of the village. The village had a few buckets, but people would bring their own buckets when they came to the fire.

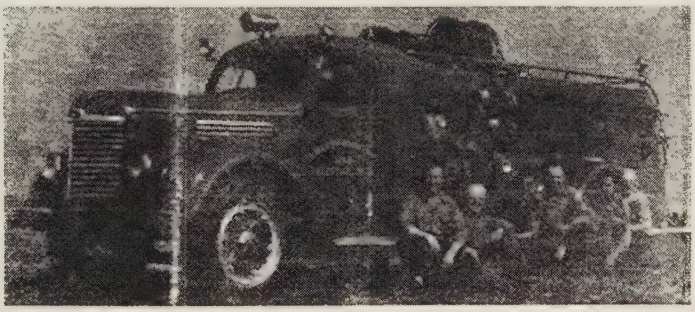
Also there was a bucket brigade for the grist mill fire, the mill then owned by Damon Aukerman and Cyrus Cable. One line was for the full buckets, and one for the returning empty buckets.

Jan. 30, 1905, council motion to purchase a hand engine from 12 to 16 man powered. Also decided to buy 500 foot of hose and a 200 pound fire bell.

They bought a 45 gallon chemical engine for $200 and two four cylinder Meyers force pumps.

The pumper was pulled by men who grabbed a 30 foot rope at the front of the 2-wheeled fire truck. Once, Omar recalls, they pulled the pumper out to Joe Ross's on Anglin' Road, but usually any farmer who had a fire would just have to watch it burn. Chemicals in containers powered the pump. When the containers were broken, acid would drop on soda causing the pressure which would pump the water.

"Palestine's bucket brigade? This was before the firehouse was erected. The bell would ring (I don't remember the fire code, but all concerned citizens betook



Liberty Township forms rural fire department. *l to r:* Buck Lowdenslager, D.E. DeHaven, Glenn Winterrowd, Carl Cole, Newton Teaford, and M.A. Teaford.

themselves to the town pump with all speed, and formed a bucket line from the pump to the endangered spot.) Usually this sufficed, but I remember one fire at the first house northwest of the corporation line, inhabited at that time by a family named Schneck. I think it was the Spring of 1909, and when things got serious C.E. Harris, owner of the general store, telephoned the Greenville Fire Department. Non-combatants were asked to stay well away from the firefighters, so my Grandmother, Jane Dickey, and I were standing by the north side of the store and we heard the fire engine coming, drawn by six galloping horses. Oh, they were beautiful as they turned the corner and went North and West, their hooves striking sparks on stones in their paths. In spite of the efforts of the fire laddies the house was doomed, and eventually the engine went back to Greenville in defeat.

The good ladies of the Campbellite and Universalist churches organized "A Sewing" which met several afternoons and donated and prepared clothing and bedding for the Schneck family, who moved away that Fall. (Mary Flo Dickey)

Early firemen were Claude Hayes, Ira Warvel, Penny Parent, and Charles Bollinger.

In the 1940's the present fire building was built on a vacant lot between the K. of P. Building and the livery stable site.

More Town Council Minutes

1889 Postings:

D.F. Aukerman's Grocery
J.F. Michaels Drugstore (lot 31)
A. Cloyd's Hotel
Post Office
E. Wilson's dry good store

Lynn Street Extended - Dec. 12, 1889, extend Lynn Street to U.V. Church.

Palestine Points - Jan. 25, 1892, Correspondence Journal (newspaper column).

Halleck Rupe and gentleman friend spent Sunday evening here.

The grip has full sway just now, and the common word of greeting is 'Well, how's the grip?'

T.J. Wilson and family spent Sunday in Madison.

The entertainment at the home of Wash Brown was a success. Delicious refreshments were served.

The beautiful snow will soon be a thing of the past.

Rev. Cotterill will soon enter upon his ministry in the Disciples Church.

There will be a teacher's meeting at this place on Feb. 13th.

M.P. Simison and family visited Greenville Monday.

The Young People's Society will give a 'C' supper on next Saturday night.

A.A."

Library - Palestine. The Library Association met in the city hall Jan. 30th, 1893, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: P.J. Saylor, President; W.A. Thomas, Vice President; Mrs. Nettie Tucker, Secretary; F.P. Harding, Treasurer; L.P. Stahr, Librarian; J.C. Triester, Seargent-at-arms; Charles Harp, F.S. Metzscar, L.P. Stahr and J.C. Triester were appointed to discuss important works in the Library at next meeting, which will be held in the city hall Monday, Feb. 13th, 1893. The members of the association cordially invite the citizens of this vicinity to attend our meetings. Secretary. (1893 newspaper)

The library was on lot 46 in undoubtedly the old township house. The library ceased around 1908, and Mrs. Tom Wilson ended up with many of the books, as Mary Flo Dickey remembers Mrs. Wilson supplied her with much reading material when Mary Flo had polio.

Street Lights - Dec. 17, 1894, Mayor Henry Hiper appointed David Wilt to purchase 12 posts of George Edger if he will furnish them for street lamps.

Dec. 31, 1894, 9 lamps and 3 extra globes. J.C. Triester awarded job of shaping up those posts and putting up the lamps.

March 25, 1895, mayor opened sealed bids for lighting street lamps. Charles Stahr, $2 per month.

Mayor moved motion to buy coal oil can and oil for use of streets for one month. Motion for mayor to buy 3 street lamps on condition Parent, Clapp, Ware furnish their own oil for their street lamps. James McCabe paid $4.32 for 9 lamp posts. (Parent, Clapp, & Ware had stores on lots 31, 4, and 45)

In later years Jerry Norris, the town barber, was the lamplighter. He had a pushwagon to help him put out lights, clean globes and fill with coal oil every morning. One lamp was in the middle of town, and one was by the church.

Herschel Ross in Palestine

Town Purchase - May 6, 1895, the town bought Dr. Rush's office beginning S.E. corner lot 23 N. 28 links W. 65, S. 28, E. 65.

Bill Kester Undertaker - Bill Kester lived where George Kreitzer lives now. Kester had a horse drawn hearse but he was practically out of the undertaking business by the time Omar Dill recalls. Omar says that when his Grandma died in 1899, Bill Kester wasn't in the business at that time. Locals put Bill Kester's hearse atop the sawmill roof one Halloween.

Telephone - Oct. 16, 1899, council gave right to Central Union Telephone Co. to place and maintain upon the highways of said village the poles, wires, and fixtures necessary and convenient for supplying to the public communication by telephone.

The first telephone was in McCabe's grocery, which was located just east of the present grocery, according to Omar Dill.

May 21, 1900 Ordinance Posting:

Clapp's grocery (lot 4)
Ross, Biddle & Co.'s Hardward Store
Parent & McCabe's grocery (lot 31)
Stahr's Harness Shop (lot 20). This shop was in the building originally Jacob Long's Saloon.
Hiper's Blacksmith Shop (lot 62)

Signs - March 4, 1901, M.P. Simison authorized to paint and erect four signs boards at the corporation limits to read sidewalk riding prohibited.

Town Pump - July 8, 1901, council ordered street commissioners to clean up around calaboose and put up fence wire calaboose. Council awarded Ross and Harding the contract of putting in new pump at Cloyd's corner, clean out well, and if necessary sink sewers for sum $11. Also the council purchased two stone troughs, one for Cloyd well and one for Heiper well.

Dec. 30, 1901 Postings:

Parent & McCabe store
D.A. Keener Hardware store
Post Office of H.D. McCabe
Meat Market of W.E. Kester. Billy Kester had a slaughterhouse with Hoy Kester up until 1916 or 1917 on Main St. and alley north or 2nd cross street. (lot 10, later lot 7)

1902 Fire - Jan. 26, 1902, fire destroyed Dr. Rush old office and council rooms on lot 23.

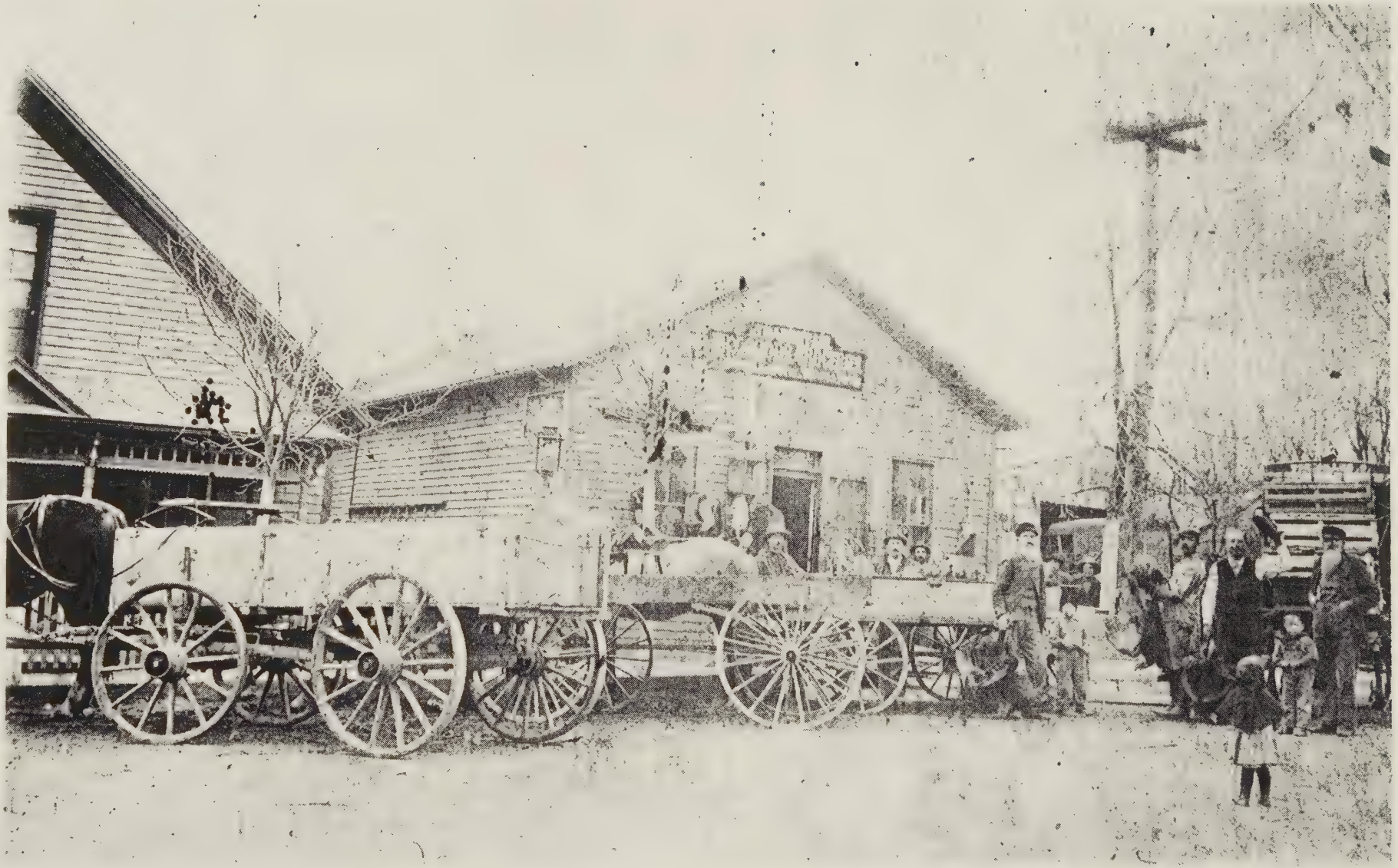
1903 Businesses - The German Grange Cook Book for this year included the following advertisements:

The Palestine Roller Mill equipped with the very latest improved machinery. Swing Bolter Process. Propelled by Bay State Engine. No home can be complete without bread made from Purity Flour. Try it. C. Cable & Company.

Ross & Jefferis dealers in hardward, buggies, farm implements, pumps, paints, oils, etc. (lot 45)

The Palestine Daily Meat Market, W.E. Keister proprietor. Fresh and salt meats always on hand. Fresh fruits a specialty. Pop and cigars.

J.W. Ware fruit grower. Fruit farm and residence half mile west of Palestine.



Turkeys at John Parent Store 1898 or 1903. Note street lamp and telephone or telegraph pole.

Livery Stable

Herman Ross recounts that before his father got into the livery stable business, Joe Ross ran a general store that stood south of the Putman building. There was a time when Joe had a hardware store, general store, and livery simultaneously.

J.C. Ross rented the lower room of the Township Building from the trustees December 3, 1898. The trustees bought a keg of nails from Ross and Biddle in 1900, but by 1903, Ross was in partnership with Herschel Jefferis. Ross may have been out of the township building by July 1901 when Harry McCabe rented a room there.

Pg. 582 of the 1900 *Biographies of Darke County* indicates Norman Teaford may also have had an "interest in a hardware store and livery stable at Palestine..." The hardware store was later sold to a Sellman.

Joe Ross's livery stable, some 90 foot long, stood where the fire station now is. He used to buy mustangs wild, break them and sell them. Joe would board and feed horses of school students who came from as far as Longtown without charge. Joe continued to sell many horses and mules until the middle 1920's.

Joe stabled horses for the butchers, and doctors Dickey and Garbold (who lived where Paul Rush now lives). Joe kept two stallions: one draft and one buggy horse. Also during this period Lou Stahr had a harness shop and Frank Harding, Henry Hyper, and Oliver Harter had blacksmith shops. Scales were in front of the livery.

Part of the livery sold to Jim Mitchell who used it to build a barn in the 1940's.

Different people managed the livery, including Sellman. In the early 1920's, Herschel Ross kept Model "T" School Buses in the livery building.

Early 1900's

"Palestine in the early part of the century was a very prosperous village. But bear in mind, at that time we were from forty-five minutes to one and a half hours from Greenville, depending on how good of a horse you might have.

"Surprising as it may sound, many of the village residents went to Greenville twice a year, to pay their taxes; perhaps at Christmas time to do some shopping and probably to the Darke County Fair in August. Other than that many of the people did not get very far from home.

"At that time the village boasted of a two-story school building, which stood where the six-room building now stands; two prosperous churches, three doctors, three general stores, a butcher shop, a barber shop, three blacksmith shops, a woodworking or wagon shop, a leather-working or harness shop, a saw mill, a flour mill, post office, a livery stable, a hotel and a rooming house. Not to mention at one time from one to three saloons. There was also a tinners shop.

"The fire bell which now stands in front of the fire house was purchased in 1915 and erected on a wooden structure on the south side of Cross Street, West of Main. When this street became a state route, and or U.S. highway, it became necessary to move the bell. It was moved to a place in the alley behind the township building on the north side of East Main Street. It was placed on a much higher steel structure donated by Ben T. Miller. There it remained in use until it was replaced by the electric siren. The fire bell was also used to notify council members of their meeting nights.

"The first cement sidewalk, which is still in use, was on the north side of Cross Street from the Norman Teaford residence at the west edge of town to the east line of the property now owned by Marvin Oda. I do not recall the year,

Palestine looking north around 1915.

K P Hall Palestine Ohio and Ross Delivery Stable on right.

but it is inscribed in the cement at the west end of the walk.

"Also at this time most of the residents had a horse, perhaps two, a cow, some chickens and probably one to three pigs to supply the winter meat.

"Some of the village boys would herd the cows along the country roads. Taking them out in the morning and back in the evening. The cows would know and walk up to their respective barn doors." *Submitted by Chalmer N. Harding, May, 1976.*

Knights of Pythias Palestine Lodge No. 652

The lodge held weekly conventions on Thursday evenings in the KP Hall. Members would rise through the ranks of page, esquire, and knight.

A 1949 by-laws booklet lists past chancellors as J.D. Aukerman, Garfield Armacost, Howard Armacost, A.L. Burns, B.H. Baughman, Carl Cole, L.R. Callihan, E.A. Campbell, J.D. Cole, J.M. Fowble, Lester Fitzwater, Lee Graham, Claude Hayes, C.N. Harding, Ralph Hiatt, O.E. Lowdenslager, J.W. Lamb, C.L. Lawrence, D.H. Metzcar, W.F. Mills, Ben T. Miller, Raymond Marker, Gerald Mikesell, R.E. Mills, Henry O'Brien, Mac Ross, Paul Rush, William Ritz, Raymond Ritz, Ollie Riegle, I.F. Saylor, O.E. Stapleton, E.E. Sinks, J.C. Saylor, Charles Smith, Clyde Teaford, Roy Teaford, John Wolf, Guy Van Ormer.

Members included J.D. Aukerman, Garfield Armacost, Arthur Addington, Howard Armacost, Byron Armstrong, A.L. Burns, Roy M. Brown, Sherman Baird, B.H. Baughman, Ray Bruner, Lawrence Beisner, Don Bicknell, Gerald Burns, Robert Bussard, R.J. Brown, Carl Cole, V.E. Chenoweth, J.R. Callihan, Ben Cole, E.A. Campbell, Harold Cloyd, J.D. Cole, Marion Clapp, Harold Cole, Elza Coppock, Fred Clark, Vaughn Chenoweth, Ernest Chenoweth, Wilson Dubbs, J.F. Dynes, D.E. Dehaven, T.I. Davis, Dick Daugherty, Leonard Edwards, W.R. Ferguson, George W. Fisher, Edgar Flatter, J.M. Fowble, E.L. Funk, Kenneth Fowble, Lester Fitzwater, Lee Graham, Frank Graham, Claude Hayes, C.N. Harding, Ralph Hiatt, Glen Hiatt, Fred Hiatt, Hiram Hunt, Lloyd Hammontree, J.F. Haseher, Herschel Jefferies, Rill Jefferies, Elmer Jefferies, Dwight Jenkenson, Loren Janes, Ralph Koontz, Eugene Kuhnle, A.B. Koons, Chalmer Koons, C.C. Ketrow, George Kreitzer, Earl Kercher, O.E. Lowdenslager, Sam Lindamood, Sam Lindamood Jr., J.E. Lowdenslager, J.W. Lamb, Hilbert Laux, C.E. Lawrence, Herman Lowdenslager, Carl Mills, R.E. Mills, Ralph Mills, Ben T. Miller, D.H. Metzcar, C.V. Miller, Bert Mikesell, Jacob Miller, Christ Miller, James Miller, Russell Mikesell, Raymon Marker, Gerald Mikesell, Harold Mann, Roll Manuel, Russell McClain, Phillip Manuel, M.L. Newbauer, Marvin Oda, Henry O'Brien, Kenneth Oliver, Ralph Oliver, Robert Parent, George Peden, Denver Peden, Grant Partin, Ira Peden, C.W. Peters, Nim Partin, Roy Price, Marion Perry, Mc. Ross, Jesse Ross, Paul Rush, Harding Ross, Ray Rush, D.L. Runner, William Ritz, Ramond Ritz, Clarence Runner, Fred Rentz, Herman Ross, H.B. Riggs, Thomas Ross, J.C. Ross, W.H. Ross, Joe Reigle, Ollie Reigle, Ronald Reck, Ray Richards, Wayne Ross, I.F. Saylor, O.E. Stapleton, J.A. Shields, Claytus Shank, Lacy Saylor, H.L. Sellman, William H. Saylor, E.E. Sinks, J.C. Saylor, O.C. Sink, Raymond Saylor, Chester Stump, Victor Sharp, Herbert Saylor, Francis Shank, Leroy Stephens, Ora Stump, Herbert Stromer, Charles Smith, Mac Teaford, Clyde Teaford, I.S. Trimble, Roy Teaford, Z.V. Teaford, Karl Thomas, M.A. Teaford, John Ullom, F.M. Ullery, August Van Tickle, Guy Van Ormer, H.H. Wagonman, J. Lendall Williams, J.H. Wolf, Robert Wilt, George Warvel, Omer Wilson, Chas. Wentworth, C.F. Wissinger, L.W. Wertenbaker, Raymond Wright, Harold Warvel, Richard Wilt, Clifford Wyne, Paul Warvel, L.H. Wilt, Charles York.

Knights of Pythias Hall - In 1907, the K. of P. Lodge #652 built this building replacing the old Crandal House Hotel. The Lodge rented to J.C. Ross for a buggy shop until about 1913. Joe Ross and Herschel Jefferis were partners awhile in the buggy and hardware business. At one time Ross ran a grocery store, and the hardware store.

Ben T. Miller ran his hardware store from 1913 to 1961. He sold agricultural implements for awhile, and may have sold the first three tractors in the county. He then went into general contracting; doing galvanized metal roofing, spouting, heating, and plumbing.

The first floor was divided so that a grocery store could be in the building on the south side of the building. Bill Poling at one time had a pool hall in this building.

The building was originally built with acetylene lighting. The building was sold to Palestine Exchange in 1973.

Walter Manuel had a weighing station and also sold coal from the scale shed which was on the west side of the K. of P. building. Ben Miller also had a scale, but located on the south side of 36.

1947 — Duane Goens, Noel Marshall, Bob Wilson. Note Manuel Coal Shed.

Jefferis Store Window

Jefferis Store - Lulu (Fitzwater) Arnett, Omar Dill, Ed Jefferis, Charles Jefferis, Merle (Jefferis) Graham.

1906 Store - After Parent's store burned down, John Parent built a two-story frame building at the south-east corner of the main intersection. His son Ad S. Parent and Harry D. McCabe ran the general store. The trustees paid for relief to McCabe & Parent in 1908, and to A.S. Parent in 1910.

Next the store was run by Charlie E. Harris' son and son-in-law, George Harris and Ed Jefferis. Charlie Jefferis bought out Harris' share and ran the store with his brother Ed from about 1910 to 1917. Omar Dill clerked at the store for the Jefferis brothers. They sold the store to Borman, a real estate dealer, and Omar continued to work for him about a year. Harry Schaeffer ran the store next, and Omar Dill recalls working for Schaeffer about two years. Croppy Harding clerked for Schaeffer around 1920, and thinks Schaeffer had the store about five years. After Schaeffer's death, the store was sold through a liquidator.

Through the twenties, the store had a number of owners. The ownership and time of ownership through this period is uncertain, but some of the merchants are mentioned here.

A Rolin may have had the store in the 1920's. Mae Woods was a clerk at the store when Bert Wagner had the store a year or two. Wagner may have sold to W.F. Mills and his son-in-law, Bill Hershey. By 1925, Orville Jefferis was probably running the store.

Jefferis Store - Omar Dill, Merle Jefferis, Charles & Ed Jefferis.

Jefferis Store - Omar Dill, Charles Jefferis, Merle Jefferis, Ed Jefferis.

Frank Lamb had the store about 1927-28. Frank's son John recalls working summers dipping ice cream in a parlor in the back of the store. They had wire back chairs and tables for the ice cream parlor. John says the store was sold to the postmaster W. Floria Mills who in turn sold it to Dora Smith in 1928 or 1929.

Concurrent to this time Clarence Runner had a barber-shop, shoe repair shop, and store in front of his house. Ferguson had the store at the Exchange with Monks and Siniard handling the meat shop. Ben Miller had a tin ware shop and Bill Poling had a pool room in the corner of the K. of P. Building.

The Junior Lodge started around 1910 or 1915 and lasted probably into the 1930's. This lodge met upstairs in the Parent building. Zene Teaford remembers his dad was active in the Lodge. They used to dress in uniforms with tall hats and guns and march in a pasture field.

Mrs. W. Roscoe Ferguson says they had the 'little store' starting the last of 1927. They stayed at the 'little store' three or four years then had a chance to move into the 'big store'. They bought the building of John Parent. At the time, the store had been vacant a short while, and they moved their

merchandise across the street from the 'little store'. There was a barber in the back of their store awhile. They lived upstairs. Lucille Rush started working at the store for Fergie in 1933. Fergie sold the store to Cletus P. Shank around 1942-44.

Cletus Shank ran the store five or six years. Tude Ullom barbered in the back of the store during this time. Shank sold to Rill Jefferis and Carl C. Cole. They ran from about 1946 to 1948. Carl lived upstairs, then bought out Rill's share. Fred and Joan (Cole) Clark worked at the store about a year.

Paul and Lucille Rush have had the grocery since 1951.

The front of the Rush Store was changed by Roscoe Ferguson to make room for a gas pump.

Other Groceries

Old Parent Building - This store on lot 31 burned down -possibly about 1901. This was McCabe and Parent's Store. John Parent owned it when it burned, and he lived next door where Joe Cole now lives. Parent built the 1906 building which became known as "the big store".

Harry McCabe rented a township building room July 6, 1901 according to trustee records. This may indicate the time that the old Parent building burned. In 1905, H.D. McCabe is still renting the room from the trustees, and trustee records show paying a bill to Harry McCabe for relief. The trustees bought food or other necessities for the poor of the township, so McCabe may have had his grocery store at the Township Building until the 1906 building was built.

Omar Dill says that before Parent, John Michael had this store. Omar says that the fire bucket brigade worked very hard to save the house (where Joe Cole now lives). The east wall of the burning store was leaning against the house, and it took great effort to save the house.

Clapp Store - This four gable, three story building is so similar in architecture, that it may have been built the same period of time as the Putnam Building. The 1857 plat shows the building at this site to be used by Larch & Brother for a store. C. Viets had the building in 1875.

Frank Clapp ran a store here at the turn of the century. This building burned about 1904/05 recalls Omar Dill.

H.L. Stevens Store - A one story frame with a store in front and dwelling in the rear of the building stood on lot 45. Herman Ross was born in this building when his father, Joe Ross, ran a general store there shortly before 1900. Ross and Jefferis had an implement store in this building. Herschel Stevens ran a general store there. Elmer Cable ran the store when it burned down in 1914 or 15, then he started another store where the post office is now (lot 12). Omar Dill recalls a Joe Ware had the store here before 1898.

Cable Restaurant - After the store on lot 45 burned, Elmer Cable had a restaurant in a building west of the K.P. Hall. He had a slot machine there, and the locals would get him busy fixing a sandwich in the back, then use lead slugs in the slot machine. Joe Ross may have had a beer joint in this after Cable. Ed Jefferis moved this building across from where Carl Singer lives. The building that was immediately west of this building may have been used for some kind of store when a Fox lived there but was more probably a residence. This building was moved out of town to be used as a strip shed and still stands with Gale Teaford's barns.

Township Hall - Leroy Stephens had a grocery in the Township Hall on lot 11, in 1925. From about 1926 to 1930, W.F. Mills had a store on the ground level of the building. "Groceries, tobacco, cigars, highest price for country produce and cream." This advertisement was in the 1926 school paper - "The Croaker".

The upstairs of the Hall had been used for school basketball games in the teens. In the 1940's, Ollie Wilcox had a harness shop on the second floor of this two story brick building which also served as the city building and jail.

Exchange Building - While the present building has different additions to it, the first building was built around 1915 or 16 probably by Harley Monks, who used it for a meat shop.

Fern Siniard recalls that Willard Clapp and John Siniard had an ice cream parlor there for two or three years around 1919.

John Siniard and J. Albert Shields worked the store. Albert had a barbershop in a building behind the store, and Siniard had a meat shop in the rear of the store. John Siniard's original meat shop was down the street north of Warvel's. Siniard learned the trade with brothers Dewey and Albert from Hoy Kester's father and Hoy who had a meat shop. Mr. Kester was the butcher next door to Paul Saylor.

Claude and Summa Schaeffer may have had the grocery here next. Fergie (Roscoe Ferguson) had the grocery at this corner from 1927 to about 1930, and later crossed the street to the 1906 building.

John and Harley Monks took over the grocery store and meat shop until 1931/32. During this time Ullom had the barber shop.

Buck Lowdenslager started the Palestine Exchange John Deere dealership in 1941. Lee and Helen Graham continued the business and their son Richard later joined the business. Zachary hopes to be the fourth generation in the business.

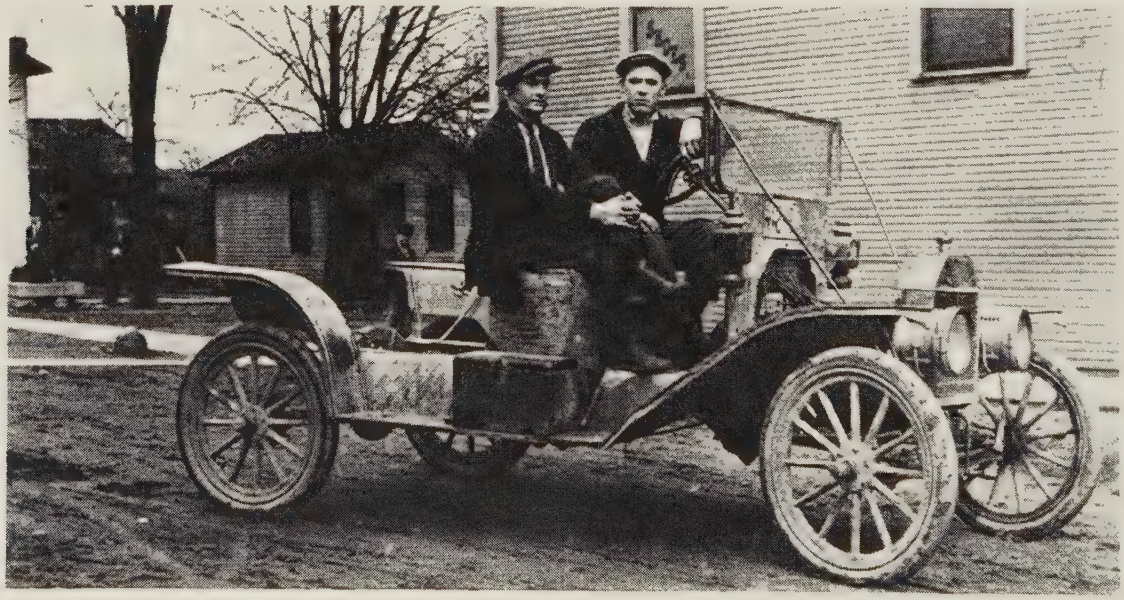
Clarence Runner Shop - Clarence Runner made an extra bedroom in their house, on the northwest corner of Cherry and Cross street, into a restaurant. This was from about 1923 into the 30's. At that time a building extended from the house toward Cherry, which Clarence used as a shoe repair

Summer of 1921 - Liar's Club I. Dill, Burkebile, Harp, Saylor, Arnett, Ketring, Henry Hyper in front of Palestine Exchange Store before porch.

Old Barber Shop and old Palestine Exchange Store about 1923 or 24 - John Siniard, Chester Arnett, George Baker, Thurl Stephens, Earl Teaford, Willard Clapp, Albert Shields, Charles Bollinger, Earl Arnett.

Summer 1921 - Omar Siniard, Mac Ross, Marion Clapp, Earl Arnett, Bob Manuel, Eugene Davis, Scott Clapp, Jim Clapp, Charlle Hiatt, Reece Ketring, Herman Ross, Mat Davis in front of old Palestine Exchange Store.

Oral Lowdenslager, Herman Ross - note old gas pump.



Wallace Cromley, Carl Jefferis - note concrete sidewalks across 36. The stone prevented people from turning the corner too sharp. This picture preceeded the Palestine Exchange Building.

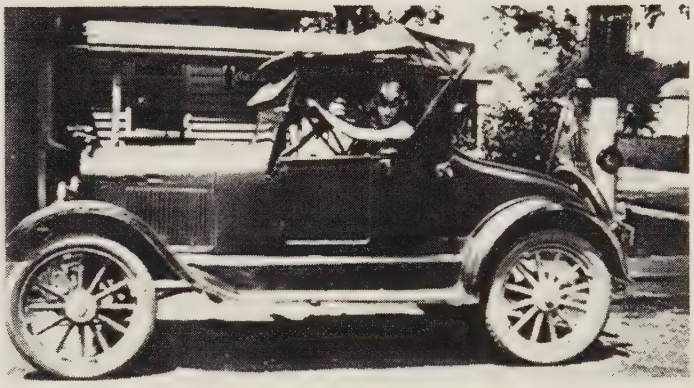
Town Square - Blanche Manual Stephens, Lenore Wilcox Alexander, and Mae Woods at town pump. Little store, barber shop, and township house in background.

shop and barber shop. The shop is gone, but the house remains.

Clarence then moved to the K. of P. building where he had the post office and grocery. He sold the grocery to Claude and Summa Schaeffer. Schaeffer's later moved to Ft. Jefferson.

Later Clarence Runner barbered in the rear of the Parent store building. Runner's last barber shop was in the house on lot 63.

Ollie Upton in front of Clarence Runner Store 1927 or 28.



Grace Runner in front of Runner Store 1929/30

Fill 'er up!

Clarence and Mary Runner Store

The General Store at the Turn of the Century

"The general store in the early 1900's carried practically anything the family might need, with the exception of meat, which was bought at the butcher shop. The butcher, by the way, killed and dressed all the meat he sold.

"The general store was far from the supermarket we know today. They sold groceries, dry goods, clothing (such as it was), shoes (both work and dress) for the entire family. They even sold woven wire fence, fence posts and some ground feed for livestock. Bear in mind at this time many of the town people had their own horse, cow, pigs and chickens.

"Now for the groceries. Much of the merchandise came in wooden barrels. Crackers, salt, sugar, vinegar, were among the things that came in barrels; crackers were displayed in and sold from glass case about 24" x 24" x 36" in size. They were filled from the top and dispensed from the bottom. Cookies came in 5 lb. boxes, sometimes in tin, sometimes in cardboard. Now salt became a problem at times when it would collect moisture.

"Sugar - two grades of granulated, cane and beet. The cane sugar was refined more, it was finer and more expensive; the beet sugar was coarser, and cheaper. It was not preferred for canning. Now vinegar may still be bought in bulk at a few places. It was dispensed from the barrel with a wooden pump. The acid in vinegar making the metal pump impractical.

"Much of the fruit came dried in 25 lb. wooden boxes. Apples, apricots, peaches, pears, prunes, raisins, both seeded and seedless. There was also mixed fruits; a mixture of the fruits mentioned above with the exception of raisins. Bananas came on the stalk, hung from the ceiling upside down from the way they grew.

"One of the big headaches of the merchant was 'butter'. They all bought and sold country butter, some they could sell retail, some had to be resold for soap grease. Now think of a quicker way to make a woman mad, than to tell her she did not make good butter.

"This writer recalls one incident - Mrs. D. brought in a roll of butter. Mrs. W. said, 'Oh Mr. J., there is some of Mrs. D.'s butter, I want some of that.' So Mr. J. put the roll of butter on a board beside the scales and cut it in two. In the center of that roll was a nice big chunk of salt - now butter was selling for perhaps 38¢ per lb., salt for 3¢. Guess who smiled?

"The cereal shelf is quite different today; then a choice of eight would be considered good. Post Toasties, Puffed Wheat, and Rolled Oats being the most popular.

"Most of the candy came in 25 lb. wooden buckets. Chocolate drops, and peanut clusters, vanilla or maple flavor, being the most popular. A big percent of the candy was stick candy. Very few candy bars as we know them today.

"In the dry goods department, they would stock gingham, callico, a few prints, muslin; perhaps two grades of bleached and three of unbleached; pillow tubing and ticking were in the stock of bolt material.

"Now in that day the ladies did not seem to care how many had dresses from the same bolt of material, nor did they seem to care how many used the same pattern.

"The big demand for unbleached muslin came in late winter or early spring when they were preparing covers for tobacco beds.

"Also in big demand was workshirts (usually blue chambre) and overalls in all sizes. Overalls, good quality, sold for 75¢. Price them today. Probably $15.00 or up.

"Back to the groceries - after the barrels, sugar was packed in cloth bags - 5, 10 and 25 lb. bags. The bulk sugar was now packed in 100 lb. bags. The brown sugar in light brown, medium brown, and dark brown also came in 100 lb. bags, sold out in desired amounts.

"Flour was packed in heavy paper bags, mostly 12½ lb., 25 lb. and 50 lb. sizes.

"Salt was also packed in 3, 5 and 10 lb. cloth bags. This writer recalls when canned potatoes first came on the market (they did not sell). Sliced bread was also slow in being accepted.

"Dry hominy was also a very popular item when it was first packaged in cans it was not readily accepted. Today it is not available in the dry form.

"Because of the lack of refrigeration and many other modern methods, many of the products we buy year round today were seasonal at that time." *Submitted by Chalmer N. Harding.*

Hucksters

Once a dependable means by which people in the country could sell their produce and buy goods, the huckster wagon has vanished with time. As the large city supermarket chains have pressured the small country stores, selling, buying and trading out of the huckster trucks and earlier horse-drawn huckster wagons has ceased to be a store on wheels to farmers who now have cars and good roads to drive to stores.

Many huckster routes existed in this area. I do not know when the first huckster came about, but we can still know of hucksters around the turn of the century.

Horse and wagon hucksters out of Baker Store were Wilson Lewis, Dave Weaver, David Spielman, and Sam Hamilton.

Clyde Flatter drove a horse and wagon huckster out of New Madison, and George Burns huckstered for Virgil Brown.

The Nashville store had a huckster wagon in earlier days. Orville Jefferis, Willie Dancer, and Slecker drove horses and huckster wagons for William. Clement McCabe is thought to have been a huckster for McCabe. Raymond Jefferis was probably the first to drive a truck out of Nashville when in 1935 he drove a model "T" huckster truck for Glen Ross, and maybe also huckstered for Jackson.

Bob Mikesell huckstered out of Chenoweth's Store in Glen Karn.

Huckster routes continued with the motor age up til World War II era. Croppy Harding drove a converted school bus, for W.R. Ferguson from about 1930 to about 1940 off and on. Arthur Petry may have driven the huckster route also during this time.

The huckster route had not been driven for awhile out of Palestine since early 1900's. However, Croppy did drive a panel body truck for a cream route in the late 1920's. In the morning he would drive the route to pick up the cream, return to the store to test it, then return in the afternoon to return the can and take groceries.

Croppy had three routes on his huckster route, running two twice a week, and one route once a week. His route extended as near Greenville as Denniston's Filling Station (now 502 Market), and Grover Miller's in Greenville Twp.

He carried about everything, and if he didn't have what the person wanted would bring it on next trip. He carried groceries, soaps, canned goods. He had a tank of kerosene and a keg of vinegar. He would buy chickens, and often the farmer or farmer's wife would trade chickens for groceries. He also bought eggs, sometimes buying as many as 8-15 cases of eggs in a trip. In those days a case was 30 dozen eggs. Most of the eggs were carried on a rack on the outside of the truck.

The huckster routes did not overlap too much, each huckster seeming to have his own area. Croppy's route area met with Bartonia's route to the N.W. Ralph Scharr huckstered out of Savonnah for Oscar Vietor at this time also.

Huckster Truck

1908

The 1908 "Rural Route and Business Directory of Darke County" lists: Dr. Charles Baker (house office lot 42), O. Harter blacksmith (lot 9), W.E. Kester Meat Market, Lawrence & Wilcox plumbers, McCabe & Parent General Store, J.C. Ross Buggies & Implements, John Sinard Hardware, D.H. Stephens General Store (lot 45).

1910

The Palestine Directory section of the 1910 "Complete Directory of Darke County Ohio" lists: Charles Harris mayor, Harley Monks clerk, Charles Stover treasurer, Levi Loyd marshall. Councilmen were Henry Hiper, John Aukerman, John Parent, Harry Judy, Harvey Hill, and Norman Teaford.

Businesses included: Albert Shields Prop. barber shop E. Broad, Henry Hiper blacksmith shop N. Main, Oliver Harter blacksmith shop N. Main, A.S. Parent prop. Dry Goods store S. Broad, J.C. Ross prop. Feed Barn N. Main, Charles Overholser groceries Broad, L.P. Stahr prop. Harness Shop Broad, W.E. Kester prop. Meat Market Broad, and Charles Baker physician W. Broad.

The patron's directory of the "1910 Atlas" adds, W.H. Kester, Dealer in Fresh & Salt Meats, Poultry, Game & Fish. A.S. Parent Dealer in General Merchandise, Dry Goods, Groceries, Shoes, Hardware & Country Produce.

Shield's Barber Shop Building - This little building that shows up in some of the local pictures may have been the office for Dr. Jobes. Bill Kester had a meat shop in the building then his son Hoy ran the shop awhile. Albert Shields had a barber shop in the building next.

Sept. 30, 1912 Ordinance

"No Person Shall within the limits of the Incorporated Village of Palestine Darke County Ohio Spitt, Throw or deposit any refuse of Tobacco or other Noisome or offensive Substance upon Cement Side Walks of Said Village thereby rendering the Same Filthy and Dirty."

Early Commerce

Kester Ice House - George Kester had an ice house around the turn of the century. Jess Ross used to cut ice for it.

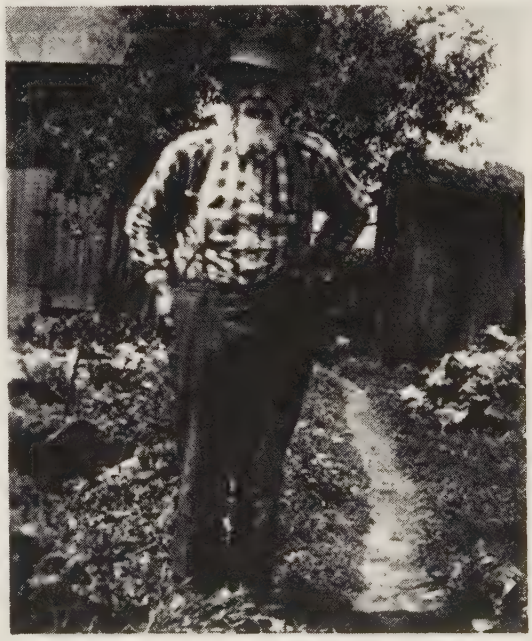
John J. Jefferis had an ice house at his farmstead near where the old Grange Hall used to be. This house supplied ice in the early 1900's, but was destroyed by the tornado of 1920.

William Jacob Harris - used to haul ice from Greenville to Palestine and Hollansburg in an old Model "T" truck. He delivered to the houses in the 1910's.

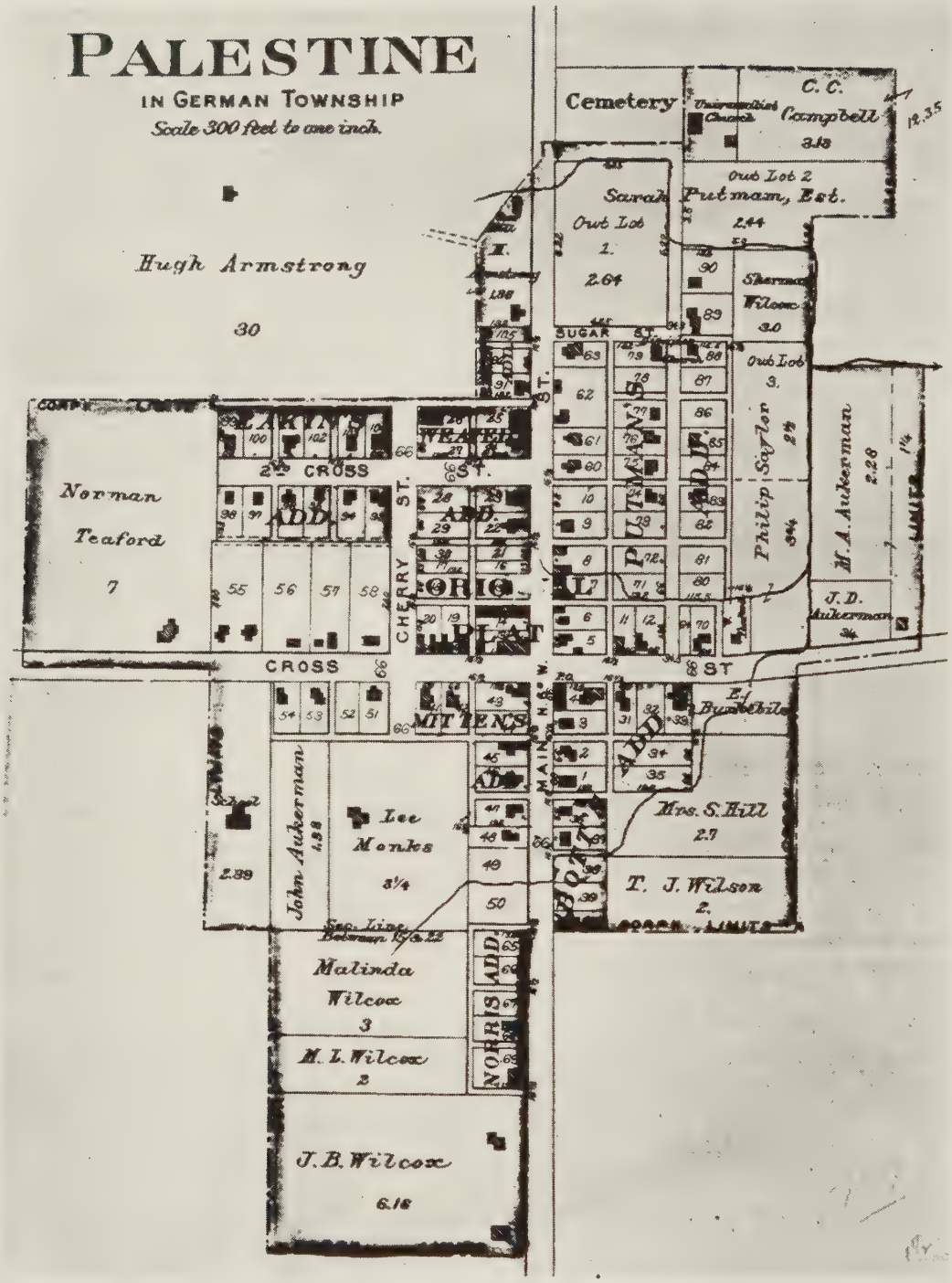
Dr. Tobin - In the early teens, Dr. Tobin was a local veterinarian. He lived at lot 103. Croppy Harding used to drive Dr. Tobin in the Doc's Model "T" Ford to make his calls. A public pump was near Dr. Tobin's house. The well to that pump was in the street.

Omar Dill also recalls Doc Tobin asking him to drive him to "Anazony" (Ansonia). Doc had a treatment for fistula -a horse skin disease with large absesses on the neck.

Aukerman Wagon Shop - Joel Aukerman had a wagon shop on lot 8 sometime before 1920. The two-story building



Dr. Tobin and Path



1910 Palestine

had a ramp which run up to the second floor where Aukerman painted and finished the buggies. A stairway ascended between the two ramps, so that a buggy could be pushed upstairs. Croppy Harding recalls the kids used to climb the stairs and slide down the ramps.

Aukerman Tinshop - Sol Aukerman had a tinshop about where Ronald Reck built his new garage just east of town. This was around 1910 and the early teens. Aukerman also did custom butchering.

Koons Garage - In the early teens Perry Koons had a garage on lot 45. He used to put rubber tires on buggies. Jesse A. Miller had this garage in the 1920's. Kermit Townsend had this garage a short while around 1930.

1916 - The Farm Journal Rural Directory of Darke County 1916-21, published by Wilmer Atkinson Co., Philadelphia lists these businesses: Jefferis Bros. General Store, H.D. McCabe & Son General Store, L.P. Stahr Harness, Siniard Bros. Meats, E.C. Sellman Plumbers.

Doctors' Homes - Many of the doctors who lived in Palestine had their offices in their homes, although most of their work was done in the patient's home on house calls. Doc Martz lived where Dale Saylor lives. Doc Baker built

the house where Zene Teaford lives. Doc North used to live where the Krukeberg's house is now. Doc Kimmell lived where Paul Rush lives, and moved to New Madison. Doc Garbold lived where Dale Saylor used to live.

Early Post Office - The post office location changed as often as political elections, but Mary Flo Dickey recalls that Jane Dickey and Lola Aukerman had the post office during the McKinley administration. The post office was in the general store awhile and for awhile in their home where Rill Jefferis now lives. Jane Dickey had that house built 1901, and at that time it was the most modern house in Palestine.

1920's

Rollerskating - April 9, 1923, rollerskating on the sidewalk by the blacksmith shop was classed as a nuisance by the town council.

Scales - April 30, 1923, N.G. Monks asked the town council for permission to place a new pair of scales on the street to take the place of the Miller scales. Council ok'd for eight years.

Shooting Gallery - Dec. 10, 1923, permission asked town council by C.R. Miller for instituting a shooting gallery at the Miller garage. This gallery was upstairs in the building on lot 45.

Town Marshall - Around 1925, Shirl Spencer ran a shoe repair shop and was town marshall. He had a police suit and a big badge. "He kept us little guys in control, but the big boys he couldn't", says Thurman House. He had a shooting gallery in the little shop beside Ira Warvel's shop. He sold two shots for 5¢ or three for 10¢, and he couldn't figure why everybody bought two shots for a nickel. He tried to make people park their cars like in a big city. On Sunday he would dress up and parade the town, with his big billy club.

Boarding Houses - Kate Stephens ran a boarding house with sleeping rooms in Norma Lowdenslager's house in the 1920's. There were six small sleeping rooms upstairs. In the 1930's Kate ran sleeping rooms in the house where Jess and Ada Mikesell now live. The upstairs of this house was divided into four rooms.

Rolfe Restaurant - Around 1925 or 26, Orville and Grace Rolfe had a restaurant on lot 79. G.D. Saylor had a post office in this same building later. Then C.W. Slick ran a chick hatchery in this building around 1937. Herman Lowdenslager lived in the building until Harry Long bought it. Harry Long had an electric shop in it and moved it in 1941 or 42 to where it now sets beside the tennis courts. Richard Graham had the shop remodeled for a home around 1980.

Farmers' Institute - The Palestine Farmer's Institute program held February 20 - 21, 1925 at the High School Auditorium featured speakers C.A. Steele and Mrs. Martindale talking on The Farmer of Tomorrow, The Place of Women in the Community, Pure Bred Farm, Value of Boys and Girls Club, Our Wild Neighbors, Unity of Farm Production, Courtesy Begins at Home, Cooperative Marketing and The Place of Soy Beans and Sweet Clover in the Farming of the Future. The program also featured songs, recitations, a violin solo, a reading, discussion, and election of officers. In the evening, a play entitled "Her Honor the Mayor" was presented by the cast of E.T. Wagner, Dorlie Metzcar, Walter Tejan, Mrs. Jesse Heck, Mrs. Fern Tejan, Mable Metzcar, Mrs. Anna James, and Mrs. Eva Hiatt.

The officers of the Farmers' Institute were president Norman Teaford, vice-president Earl House, and sey-treas. H.P. Light.

Businesses with advertisements in the 1925 printed program were:

Jesse A. Miller wants your auto repair work and gasoline and oil trade. A full line of tires and tubes always on hand.

Sellman Hardware Co. Dexter double tub washer.

Ben T. Miller - wants to talk to you about that implement or improvement you are going to need this year. So don't fail to see him early.

Poling and Lowdenslager's Billiard Room for a little recreation, also sandwiches and cold drinks.

J.A. Shields General Merchandise. Highest prices paid for produce. Gas and Oil Service Station always open.

Monks & Siniard Meat Market. We want your trade. We kill our own pork and beef, and make our own sausage, and it is made right. Our meats will please you.

Wm. Edwards general auctioneer and blacksmith. Will give you best of service (in Ol Perry's building).

O.L. Jefferis. A Big Store in a Good Town. Where quality and prices prevail. Make this your headquarters while in town.

H.M. Ross - Anytime, Anywhere, Anything that can be trucked remember H.M. Ross will get you there or bring you back.

Leroy Stephens the grocery with the quality and the prices right. Also pays the highest market price for cream and produce.

Clarence Runner's Barber Shop and Shoe Shop. Your trade will be appreciated.

Lowdenslager & Poling Pool Room and Garage - Frank Harding's old blacksmith shop on lot 7 was later used by Buck Lowdenslager and Bill Poling as a garage. These two also used the building for a pool room at a different time. Bill and Buck may also have been together with a pool room in the K of P building.

Ira Warvel and Hiram Clark were in the building about

Pool Room Tokens

1920 doing plumbing, roofing, and wiring work. They also did some garage work a little later. They had previously worked for Ben Miller, but worked for themselves out of this shop until Ira's death. The building was not used after that. The building was razed in the summer of 1982.

Frank Harding had blacksmithed about all his life, beginning about 1880 and continuing until about 1925. Also did some pump repair work.

Traffic Light - Town council records for Dec. 6, 1929 indicated that a suspended traffic light hung from the intersection of Main and Cross Streets.

Monks scale shed later used by Ben Miller.

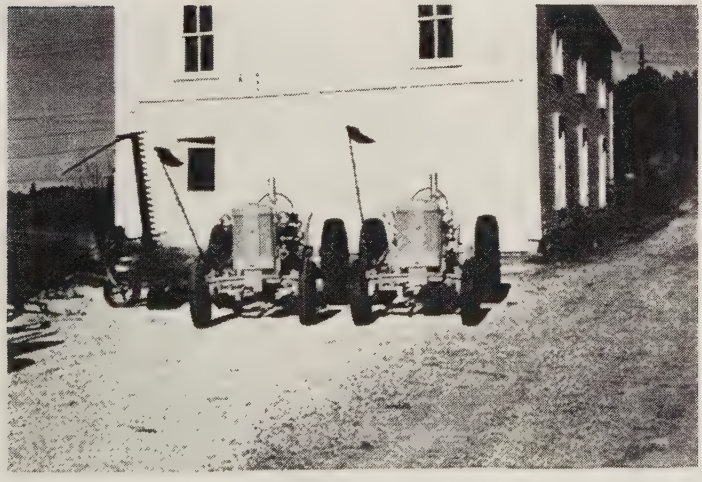
Dr. Martz and Dr. Wilson's office. The doctors' office was in the front room to the west. Dr. Martz lived in the back part of house. This picture taken 1905. Mrs. Oda lived here in the 1960's. Joe and Sandy Osborne live here now.

Helen Starbuck, Laveria Stover, Nellie Tucker at bridge south end of palestine.

Old Barber Shop taken from tintype probably in 1870's. Hufnagle had a shoe shop here 1896 or 1897. Then Harley Monks & Billy Keister had their meat shop, followed by Albert Shields barber shop.

Clement McCable and John Parent with Model "T" possibly used to pick up cream.

Palestine looking west. Structure at left is fire bell tower. The first building west of KP Hall was used for Cable Restaurant. The second building now with Gale Teaford's barns west of town. Leota Steinmetz Stafford had a hat shop in the Cable building for a couple of years. Ketring had an ice cream parlor in the building around 1898.



Building used as auto garage by Perry Koontz, Kermit Townsend, and Jesse Miller. Later used by Buck Lowdenslager for storage.

Old Post Office in Palestine Exchange Building.

Life in Palestine '20's & '40's

"In the early twenties in Liberty Township, life was full of many kinds of experiences, life and activities. It was an industrious and profitable way of life, centred in the home church and community affairs. It was called German Township until near World War I and was changed to Liberty Township.

"Farms of 40 to 80 acres and up were owned individually, maintaining each family's needs. Time was always given to community needs and interests. Productivity was secured with long hours of profitable labor and it was a place of security to many families. Home, buildings and other evidences were plentiful, making our township proud and profitable as well as pleasant.

"There were small town businesses in Nashville, Hollansburg, Glen Karn and our neighbor Bakers Store and Longtown. A short ride, and most all needs were supplied. In Palestine, there were two barber shops, a blacksmith shop, three grocery stores at one time, a butcher's shop, a post office, three social societies, the Grange, the Knights of Pythias, the Junior Lodge, and the Horse Thief Ass'n. Other activities were public dances, public card parties and community celebrations. The most noted was Memorial Day. Everyone away would add to the parade, and the out-of-door meetings if weather permitted. A public weighing station was maintained by Walter Manuel as the much needed coal supply. Ira Warvel and Ben T. Miller supplied folks with various services as well as supplies. There was an ice cream and restaurant owned by Willard Clapp and John Siniard giving social services, which later became a grocery, butcher shop, and barber shop. Such names as Ben T. Miller, Wm. Edwards, Shafer, Clarence Runner, Monks & Siniard, Ferguson, Omar Dill, Dr. Tobin, Dr. Cromley, Perry Koons, Arnett, Ullom, Jefferies, Woods, and Rev. Hoffer will be remembered always. Each, in their own way, added to the comfort and supply of the needs of the Township. There are many others: Sellman, Tejans, Puterbaugh, Ross, Miller; the list is long but one only needs to stop and remember many pleasant things of life here as well as their lives as farmers.

"Driving through the towns, one saw hitching posts, watering wells and other necessary comfort supplies. The one in Palestine, in early mornings, would be a place for men to exchange and talk about the news from early spring until late fall.

"As to religion, there were many kinds, suiting any community needs. There were the German Baptists, Church of the Brethern, Methodist, United Brethern, The Univeralists, the Fairview Christian and the Church of Christ. Regardless of difference, they all lived together which was evidenced by community interest especially Memorial Day. The Choir was made up from them, giving program of fitness for that day. At one time, so they say, there was a college for our colored folks near Long Town and quite a settlement was there but the college was absorbed when the folks went to other higher educational places.

"Another outstanding (and still being occupied) is the three-story house owned and built by Colonel Putman during the "Indian Days". It is now used as a restaurant by Red and Ruth Twaits. The old Civil War soldiers, the Boy Scouts and other folks have used it all this time. It is a standing memorial as to the passage of time and its uses.

"As to our school, it has always been the eye of great respect. The old building had been made into the West section of the building now and in Room I, the first meeting of the mothers was held. After two meetings the mothers and Mrs. Siniard decided to have the whole school be invited and out of this came the P.T.A. Many entertaining and instructional, as well as community activities, have followed. The Present Day Halloween and Bean Supper, still active and beneficial in its aims and purposes, is maintained. Names like: Margaret Manuel, Elsie Saylor, Ogreta Parent, Bessie Deeter, Ralph Wilson, Carl Mills and Dorla Metzcar meant much to our Community in providing fun and frolic to our groups. Space fails as giving credit to all in these episodes but enough to say. All was well done and profitable in all sorts of ways to the school and community.

"Schools Boards, Supt. Principals and teachers have been co-workers and together have held up the standards of school environment and principles.

"Altho there were other religions so called in the township, there were two active churches in the 20's and 40's, the Universalites and Church of Christ. Much water has gone over the bridge and there has been a calamity. Those left behind need to be mindful that life changes as time goes by. One has to build on young people - must be in homes and parents lives. The future is founded on past experience and in our churches, its the young people who must be trained and taught best by parents. By faith in God and His promises, we can make it. Together, the churches can save our nation.

"Custom Butchering and Threshing Day, as well as birthdays, furnished family days. Arnett's Threshing Machine Folks were another occupational producers of Community life in Liberty Township.

"There are many other things could be said about life in Liberty Township. Memories are precious things, spurring us on to higher planes. With all the improvements given us, let's all remember that life is what we make it, so, "Let's up and at it!!!" *Submitted by Fern Siniard, former Palestine resident and teacher.*

Directory of Darke County Ohio, 1936-39

Virgil Cassel, principal Palestine School
E.F. Lephart, supt. Palestine High School
Walter Manuel, coal dealer
Lucille Burns and Noel Harding, clerks Ferguson's store
Omar Dill, paper hanger
W.R. Ferguson, general store
Ben T. Miller, plumber
W.D. Oelslager, grocery store (Nashville)
W.O. Parent, coal dealer
W.J. Poling, Poling Restaurant
Clarence Runner, barber shop
C.C. Shaffer, grocery
Ira Warvel, garage
James Slick, blacksmith
Oliver Wilcox, harness repair

"Recorder" 1937, 38, 39

Palestine High School students published a school paper, the "Recorder", in 1937, 1938, and 1939. Gleaning through

these issues saved by Virgil Cassel, and loaned by Herman and Betty Wagner, we find local business advertising.

Jim Slick horseshoeing, blacksmithing, trailor building. Palestine.

L.E. Stephens general hauling. Phone 13F21 Palestine.

Ira W. Warvel, heating, furnaces, plumbing, roofing and spouting. Palestine.

C.C. Shaffer general store, Cities Service gas & oil. Palestine.

Oelslagers food market. Fresh fruits & vegetables, selected meats, school supplies. Nashville.

C.C. Runner. Barber shop. Palestine.

Traveling horse shoer Chester Stump. Call or write Glen D. Lane.

Ben T. Miller. Palestine roofing, spouting, plumbing, heating. Duro electric water systems. New line of hardware bargains you can't miss.

Walter Manuel Palestine. Making warm friends with Morn Red Ash Coal. Order your winter fuel now.

Runner's Restaurant. Sandwiches, soft drinks, candy. Eat at Runner's place, home cooking give us a call.

Poling & Schlechty Lunch Room. Sandwiches of all kinds, candy, ice cream, soft drinks, a good place to eat. Palestine.

Bolinger's barber shop open afternoons, evenings & Saturdays at Ferguson's.

Joe Paul. Roofing, spouting, plumbing, cementing. Palestine.

Coal and Coke higher quality at lower cost. Ken. Red Ash Lump $6.75 delivered. Semet-Sulvay Coke. Telephone 14-F-30 Greenville exchange. Parent Coal Yard. Palestine.

Custom hatching baby chicks purina feed chick supplies. Begin operation Feb. Slick's hatchery Palestine. C.W. Slick hatchery located in Saylor's property Palestine. Open for business Feb 1. White Rock eggs needed Hollansburg.

W.R. Ferguson general merchandise, cash cream station, choice selected meats. Palestine.

Santa Claus is coming to town at W.R. Ferguson's member of home stores Palestine. Friday Night December 24. You are cordially invited to Ferguson's store to enjoy the treat given with the best wishes of W.R. Ferguson. There will be a drawing in which a 9 x 12 congoleum rug will be given as well as baskets of groceries and other prizes. Buy your Christmas foods here. Fresh oysters, fresh meats, groceries, fruits, we have all it takes to make a Christmas dinner.

Glen Lane Blacksmith. Get your plows sharpened early. Nashville.

Plants, sweet potatoes $.25 @ 100, cabbage $.75 @ 1000

Palestine Exchange Aug. 1949

$.05 @ doz., tomato $.05 @ doz., pimento $.10 @ doz. Elmer H. Price ¼ mile east of Palestine.

For straw and hay baling see Kenneth Stapleton 2½ mile southwest of Palestine.

Glen Karn Implement and Auto Co. International implements Chevrolet automobiles used cars and trucks used implements, horse and mules, Glen Karn.

Slick Blacksmith Shop - Jim Slick had a blacksmith shop in the 1930's and 40's. His first shop was in Ol Harter's old blacksmith shop on lot 9. This building was torn down about 1938 by Omar Wilson when owned by Gale Teaford. Jim Slick then moved next door on lot 8 where he smithed awhile. This last building was torn down when the city bought the lot for a recreation park.

Shank's Restaurant - Cletus Shank built a restaurant where the Palestine Exchange's tractor shed is now. He ran the restaurant in the 1940's. In the late 1940's or 1950's, a Mote ran this restaurant on lot 33, and it burned down during this time.

Forney Elevator - An elevator was moved to town by a Daytonian by the name of Forney. He is said to have later been sent to prison for selling government corn to grind. Oliver ran the elevator for him for 15 or 20 years. Brandt ran awhile. The elevator on lot 7 burned down in possibly the 1960's.

March 23, 1942 Posting - A notice of new light rates was posted at W.R. Ferguson's general store, W.J. Poling's tavern, Ben T. Miller's implement store, Jim Slick's blacksmith shop, and the post office.

Reck Machine Shop - Ronald Reck had a machine shop in the 1960's in Jim Slick's blacksmith shop.

Saylor's Cabinet Shop - For a short while in the 1950's, Lacy Saylor had a cabinent shop in a building on about lot 75.

1976 Business Directory - Rush's Grocery (since 1951) Paul Rush, Red & Ruths Tavern (since 1968) Harley Twaits, Palestine Exchange - implement dealer Lee Graham, Jill's Beauty Shop Jill Schepis, Manuel's Electric Shop - motors & lawnmowers Bob Manuel, Kreitzer's Garage George Kreitzer, Palestine Super Service Glen Winterrowd & Philip

Super Service

Manuel, Little Jim's CB Sales, Brewers' Sound Service Don Brewer, Bob Schlecty locksmith. Jack Greer's Antique Shop joins the business list by 1979.

1983 Council & Trustees - Bob Wilson mayor, Ada Mikesell clerk/treas., Bill Perry, Paul Deeter, George Kreitzer, Duane Richards, Tony Ayette, Dick Helmer make up the town council. Liberty township trustees are Paul Rush, Wayne Clemens, and Paul Runner. Mary Alice Brewer is the township clerk.

Post Office

New London City

Nathaniel and Henry Ross settled in section 24 because the area had a beaver dam, and the men did not have to clear too much timber to farm it. *(Ross family history)*

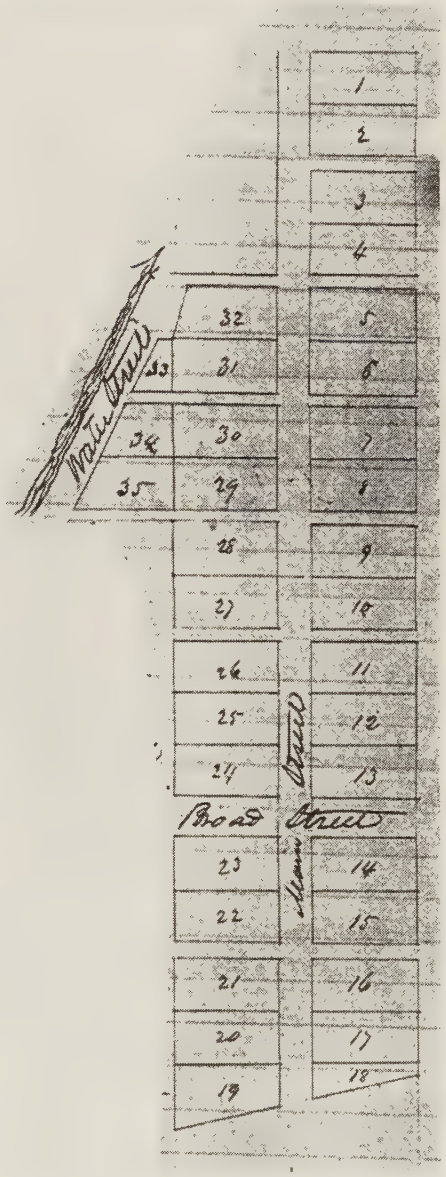
Nathaniel Ross was the proprietor of this town, and had James Devor survey the area. Nathaniel had the plat recorded February 19, 1833. The town was located on the south half of the northwest quarter of section 24, township 11 range 1 east. Broad Street was probably the old road that is shown in the 1857 plat.

The *History of Darke County, Ohio* by Beers in 1880, page 449 gives this information on the village: "We find that the first piece of ground platted for a village site in the township was located on the northwest quarter of section 24. The survey was caused at the insistance of Nathaniel Ross, and the incipient town at one time contained a saw and grist mill, a grocery and a store. Bright anticipations of churches, schools, and factories were doomed to disappointment. A rival sprang up across the prairie, which in tme proved its ruin, and New London City exists only in this brief allusion to it."

The grist and saw mill claimed were the Joshua Mitten and/or Abraham Puterbaugh mill. This mill according to the 1857 plat was on the opposite side of the West Branch than the town was located.

According to Wilson Fraser in a "Greenville Advocate" article of March 25, 1950, London "was located on the former site of an earlier thriving Indian village, on lands later owned by Jesse Woods, Ike Ross, and George Mace, and now generally known as the Wenrick, and Ross farms at the bend of the West Branch. Many Indian skeletons and stone implements have been found in this neighborhood indicating that it was also a choice site with the Indians for an extended period."

The last reference to London which I was able to find came from Deed book Q1-375 & 376. On July 2, 1847, Josiah & Eliza D. Farrar, Allen & Mary Ann LaMott, and Loring R. & Cornelia Brownell sold to Nathaniel Ross lots 31, 30, 33, 34, and 35 in London.



Plat of New London

Longtown

The settlement around Long, variously referred to as Greenville settlement or Longtown settlement, had its beginnings in 1822.

The Oct. 16, 1976 "The News-Gazette" published in Randolph County offers this beginning. "It all began in 1822 when Thornton Alexander Sr., a black former slave, who had been freed at the age of 36, moved with his wife and nine children into an area northeast of Spartanburg and purchased 300 acres of good farm land. Shortly after that James Clemens, Sr., and Ezekial Lewis and other black settlers began moving into the area. Most of the new citizens in the area were freed slaves, coming up from the South where the rights of freed Negroes were not guaranteed by those states that would ultimately secede from the Union in 1860 and 1861."

The 1914 *History of Darke County, Ohio* states, "There is a settlement of colored people in the northwestern part of this township which dates its origin from 1822, when James Clemens came from Rockingham county, Virginia, which county had passed a law that all free-born colored people should leave the state. Clemens entered 320 acres of land. He married Sophoria Sellers, of his home county, and became the father of ten children, five sons and five daughters. Three of his sons, Charles, William and Perry, became ministers of the gospel. Being attracted by the location and natural resources of this part of the country, other colored families soon followed Clemens, among whom were Reuben Bass and wife, who came from Guilford county, North Carolina in 1823, and entered 200 acres of land. They were the parents of eight children. John Randles and wife and Thornton Alexander and wife of Virginia were also among the early settlers, who entered a considerable amount of government land. From this comparatively small beginning the settlement has grown until now it has about 450 inhabitants, with two churches, four school houses and a number of prosperous homes."

John Randle came to Spartanburg in 1833 when colored settlers near the state line were Thornton Alexander and children, Ezekial Lewis, Collier Simpson, William Lewis, Allen Davis near Jessup's Mill, Philip Holland near Griffis farm. (Source: Tucker's *History of Randolph County* pg. 139)

William Jones adds that the other earlier colored settlements in Randolph County, Snow Creek and Cabin Creek communities broke up, and some of the families moved into the Longtown area.

"During the years that are past, many celebrations have been held in the settlement. First of August, Sabbath Schools, temperance, emancipation, politics and other subjects have called the people together at various times and their white fellow-citizens as well, in great numbers, and much pleasure and profit have been imparted by the addresses and exercises upon the several occasions.

"In about 1850 (perhaps earlier) a temperance society was formed in the Greenville settlement, and carried on with interest, and a degree of success for perhaps ten or twelve years. That society finally went down." ("The News Gazette", Oct. 16, 1976)

Following the Civil War, the 16th Amendment was passed allowing universal suffrage to men. The story is passed down that some dishonest "carpetbaggers" from Greenville, trying to get some grafters elected, went with wagons to the Longtown settlement to haul the new voters around to several of the local voting places. Word of this reached Palestine, and concern grew because the Greenville men were armed. It was decided that Squire Dickey, a doctor who had several clients in the Longtown settlement, would talk to them. The wagons arrived, driven by the men from Greenville, and Squire Dickey went out to meet them. A colored man who knew Squire Dickey said they had just voted at such and such a place and had come to vote at Palestine. The good doctor told them that they could vote just once. The colored man asked the doctor how often he voted, whereupon the doctor said he voted but once. The young man then turned to the others and said, "If the doctor just votes once, then we just vote once." The drivers weren't about to turn away easily until Squire Dickey told them to look up at the township house. Several men with guns pointed were at the windows. The drivers then turned away.

Tucker's 1882 *History of Randolph County,* page 133, records some of the early activities of this community. "In the whole Greenville settlement, some years ago, there were about nine hundred people. It is wholly a farming community, not having even the shadow or semblance of a town, unless, indeed, the old shell of a village at Tampico, on the Ohio side, be reckoned such, where in no business, except liquor-selling occasionally and a blacksmith shop now and then, has been located or transacted for years.

"From 1874 to 1878, a glee club existed in the Greenville settlement, composed of a few enthusiastic young persons -Elijah P. Clemens, Adeline Clemens, Richard Cotman, Philo A. Tucker, Jane P. Costin, Emma Goens, Ellen Goens, Elizabeth Goens and Lillie F. Tucker. The club took great delight together in their musical efforts, spending much time in preparing amateur entertainments at exhibitions, temperance meetings, etc.

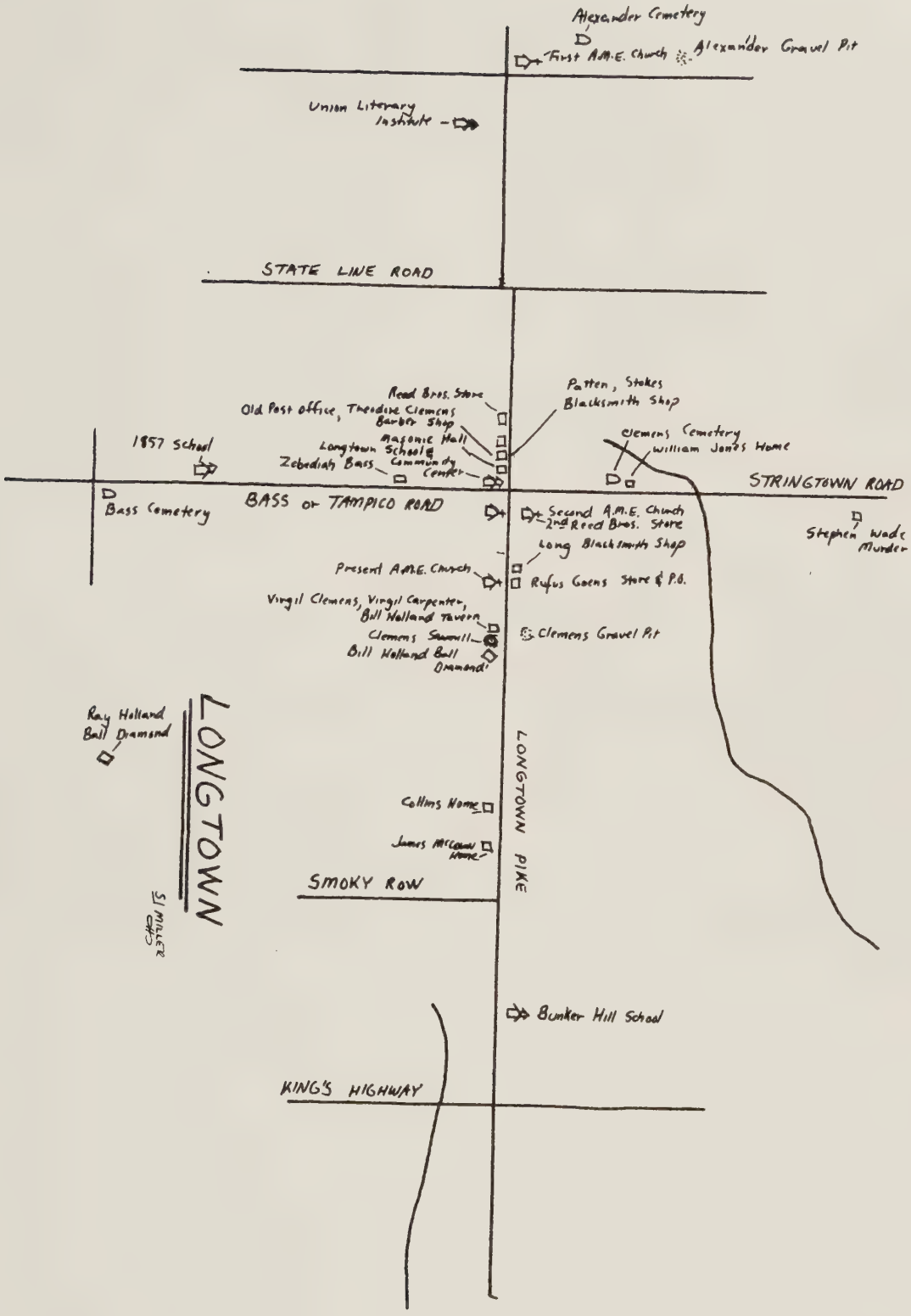
"Several of the same company found themselves into a band of singers and gave several concerts through the region, with good acceptance and success."

The 1880 census lists Alexander Mason as a stone mason. Perhaps he learned his trade from James Ochey (Okey) who was listed as a stone mason in the 1870 census.

Charles Revels, John Smith, Gabrel Smith, and John Alexander of the area are listed as ditchers. Julian G. McCown and Houston McCown list their work as working in the brick yard. Reuben Smith and Comodore Carpenter are barbers in 1880.

"After the demise of Tampico, the people in the community decided they wanted to establish a post office in a central location within the settlement. At first it was decided that the post office and surrounding houses, at the intersection of the Hollandsburg-Tampico road and Stingley road, be called Bethel because of its proximity to the Bethel Wesleyan Church. However, the idea was scrapped as not everyone in the community was affiliated with the church. The community leaders got their heads together and decided to name the evolving town after a new settler who had gained all their respect - a blacksmith named Long.

"Long, a white man, had recently returned from Kansas, presumably searching for land. Not being able to lay any claim to land out west, Long turned around and started back east. Somewhere between Kansas and Darke county, Long bought the blacksmith shop, which had already proved a financial disaster, from a fast-talking dealer trying to unload the business.


Alexander Cemetery
First A.M.E. Church
Alexander Gravel Pit
Union Literary Institute
STATE LINE ROAD
Read Bros. Store
Old Post office, Theodore Clemens Barber Shop
Masonic Hall
Longtown School
Zebediah Bass
Community Center
Patten, Stokes Blacksmith Shop
Clemens Cemetery
William Jones Home
1857 School
STRINGTOWN ROAD
Bass Cemetery
BASS or TAMPICO ROAD
Second A.M.E. Church
2nd Reed Bros. Store
Stephen Wade Murder
Long Blacksmith Shop
Present A.M.E. Church
Rufus Goens Store & P.O.
Virgil Clemens, Virgil Carpenter, Bill Holland Tavern
Clemens Sawmill
Clemens Gravel Pit
Bill Holland Ball Diamond
Ray Holland Ball Diamond
LONGTOWN
S/ MILLER
LONGTOWN PIKE
Collins Home
James McCown Home
SMOKY ROW
Bunker Hill School
KING'S HIGHWAY

"According to all accounts, Long, who had bought the shop sight unseen, was certainly surprised when he pulled up to the front of his store in the predominantly black community. But Long stuck the business out and made a go of it. The people in the Community respected Long for making the best of an awkward situation and asked him if they could name the town after him. Long consented and the village name was recorded." ("The News-Gazette", Oct. 16, 1976)

A descendant of James and Sarah Long, Helen Graham relates that her great-grandfather bought the land in the Longtown area from either a magazine or newspaper advertisement. James and Sarah Long arrived in Darke County 1884. Long ran the blacksmith shop awhile than later moved to the Sharpeye area where he continued blacksmithing.

"William Jones remembers hearing about the large Memorial Day parades the town had during the turn of the century. Many of the local residents would show off their new buggies, wagons, and spirited three-gaited horse. It was a day of good food, tall tales, jubilance and horse races." ("The News-Gazette, Oct. 16, 1976)

John Wade and huckster wagon.

Stores - Emmet Reed and sons, Ed and Bill Reed, ran a grocery and post office around 1910. The Reeds moved to Dayton, but came back in later years and ran a store. The Reed brothers built a grocery on the northeast corner of the Long intersection in the late 1930's or early 1940's. They ran a store at this location on and off until about 1955. Linda Clemens lives at the site of the original Reed store.

A two-story Mason Lodge building used to be on Stingley Road. The lodge was upstairs and a grocery store downstairs. This existed into the 1920's. At one time the P.O. was at the Mason building. Sam Hill ran the store in the 1900's, then Homer Smith. By 1911, Cass and Isabelle 'Trot' Burden ran the store recalls Lawrence Goens. William Clemens used to drive his horse and wagon to the Westerfield warehouse in Greenville to get supplies for the store.

The Long Post Office was west of the store. This later became a barber shop where Theodore Clemens barbered.

When asked about Longtown, 102 year old Margaret McCown said her cousin Rufus Goens ran a store, John Wade ran the post office, Will Stokes was blacksmith, and Uncle Wesley Clemens ran the sawmill.

Rufus Goens may have run the store at the Mason building at one time. He ran a store in his home from the 1930's to 1950's. The post office was also located in his house during this time.

Blacksmiths - An early blacksmith shop was on the west side of the 2nd house from Long corner, south side of road. Bill Stokes was the blacksmith around the turn of the century. Patten blacksmithed in the 1910's.

Also around the early 1900's was Wes Clemens gravel pit. This pit produced mostly sand as Lawrence Goens recalls. Wes also ran a steam saw mill at this location.

Baseball Team - Lawrence Goens says the first Longtown baseball team used to play across the state line on Sundays because of the Ohio blue laws.

He recalls Ed Clemens catcher, Ott Wade 1st base, George Clemens 2nd base, Fomer Archie shortstop, Alexander at 3rd, Neil Clemens, Orie Bass and Orville Collins in outfield. Verl Holland and Tollie Reed were the pitchers. They played teams from Spartanburg, North Star, Saratoga, Dayton Marcos, and Richmond Giants.

The teams of later years played on the Ray Holland diamond.

Longtown Tigers at Holland Field around 1940; front left to right Warren Andy, Gene Fackson, J.C. Price, and Bud Burden?, Ver Holland, James Ken Holland, Bud McCown. Standing, left to right: Carl Shoemake, Charles Andy, Cecil Holland, Fred Andy John Wade, Capp Clemens, Virgil Clemens, Paul Andy.

Exodus - In a Nov. 16, 1980 article of "Dayton Daily News", Maze Clemens recalls, "As late as the 1940's, there were more than 500 persons - mainly descendants of early 19th century settlers - residing in the Liberty township area around the Longtown community. Only about 175 persons remain, most reportedly more than 50 years of age.

" 'The young ones are leaving, and the old ones are dying,' Clemens said.

"The population and the vitality of the Longtown community began to ebb after World War II, as was the case for many small rural communities. Small farms began to disappear, and empty barns and houses soon dotted the countryside.

"Before the Exodus, Longtown had two churches, a

Rufus and Ellen Goens house where they had grocery and post office in the 1920's. Ellen Goens with bike.

barbershop, a general store, a lodgehall and two baseball teams that were sponsored by local farmers.

"Today there remains the one church and a seldom-used community hall. The community hall includes former Liberty School No. 4 and an addition built after a volunteer community fund-raising effort."

While many have moved from the area, several still feel close ties to the settlement, and the church and the community hall are the sites for an annual community reunion.

Hardworking, Respected People - "There is no sign of town, that was called Longtown.

"The Settlement, as it was called to begin with, is still a thriving farm area. The settlers were of mixed blood — Negro, Indian, Danish, Irish, German, English and Dutch.

"These free persons of color and run-aways made a mark for themselves and their descendants in this county. They are hard working, respected people. Such as, Clemens, Alexander, Burden, Durant, Swaney, Carpenter, Robbins, McCown, Lewis, Goodall, Costen, Okey, Wade, Goens, Epps, Jones, Holland, Patterson, Hurd, Archey, Lett, Chavis, Smith, Collins, Paxton, Fackson, Jett, Shoemake, Mason, Bass, Norton, Reed, Hope, Werner, Hickman, Spicer.

"The settlement grew to need four schools and two churches. At one time, there were approximately 900 - 1,000 people in the area. They spread south to start a town called Tampico. Tho Tampico did not prosper, it also left its mark in history.

"Now there is less than 15 children of school age in this area and they must travel to nearby towns for education.

"The people of this area realized the need for education. The Union Literary Institute was established just across the

Making apple butter in 1920's. Ethel Goens stirring, with her parents John and Laura Goens.

border in Randolph Co., Ind. It was a property donated by Benj. & Anna Thomas in 1846. School financed by James Clemens, James Moorman, Thorton Alexander and others. James Clemens was the first president of the manual labor school. From this school the ones at Longtown, we claim surgeons, doctors, nurses, professors, teachers, senators, barbers, dentists, contractors, electricians, ministers, bishops, college presidents and all other walks of life.

"Although the Union Literary Inst. is non-functional now, it is not dead. Spark of life. There is a trustee board of five persons to administer the grants that are available to Ind. and Ohio students. The trust fund, from the sale of the property and school, is still available and if repaid correctly, will live on forever.

"In the 1870's, a man and his family named Long (white), bought a blacksmith's shop, sight unseen, in this shop a post

office was established and thus the name of Longtown. Long and his family did not stay long in the area, soon moved to Nashville, Ohio.

"The post office was kept going for a while, in a grocery store, owned by Goens. There was at different times three stores, Mason Hall, mills, gravel pits, two blacksmith shops, and three cemeteries.

"The roads have changed very little. Stingley Road was called The Pike, it curved just a little to the south of the present road, as you can see by observing the front of the only brick structure built in the area, by J.J. McCown. Owned by H. Goens now.

"Smith Rd. was known as Smokey Rd. because of all the small houses burning wood and coal. There was lots of smoke, thus smokey. It was also said because two old ladies smoked corn cob pipes. Then name changed to one of old families living there - Smiths. King's Highway is now Hillgrove-Southern Rd. Tampico Rd. now south part of Hollansburg Tampico Rd. State Line Rd. now the west end of Stingley Rd.

"The changing times and rising prices has caused the farmers to move to towns and cities to obtain work. Thus, Longtown has not grown but diminished.

"The four schools are outdated and overgrown, except for one, at the cross roads of Stingley and Hollansburg-Tampico Rds. It is still used for Reunions, meetings, etc.

"One church is still in use, the Wesleyan Methodist Church, on the main intersection of Stingley and Hollansburg-Tampico Rds.

"There were ball teams called the Giants, then later the Tigers.

"There was a glee club of seven members who won honors around the area, from 1874 to 1878.

When our ancestors started to settle here in 1822, it was called a prairie and had lots of springs. These springs are still sweet and fresh, and the prairie is good farm land. The descendants of these pioneers to Ohio, when Ohio was just a young state, are still farming these rich grounds, over 160 years at this writing." *Submitted by Gladys (Carpenter) Collins.*

Nashville

As Palestine celebrates its 150th anniversary, so too does its quieter neighbor to the north - Nashville. On July 4, 1833, James Devor surveyed the plat of Nashville for the proprietor John Clapp. The site was near an old Indian village. Lots 1 through 12 extended west from Chester Teaford's house; lots 13 through 24 extended west from Teaford's barn. The lots were four poles by eight poles in dimension.

Old Nashville Store

The oldest house in Nashville is the house across the road from the church. Around 1914, Earl Jefferis recalled that his uncle Orlando M. Jefferis moved the house across the church from its original place north of Ive Parent's. Prior to that no buildings existed across from the church. Orlando Jefferis then rented this house out. The framework is built of hewn logs, and it set a little behind Chester Teaford's barn, and sort of between the house and barn. Indeed, this house may have been on one of the original 1833 lots of Nashville. The 1875 plat shows James McNeil's store to have been located approximately where Chester Teaford's barn now is, so this house may have been the original store. Glen Lane lived in the house before it was moved, and Keith Stephens and T.T. House were among those who lived in the house after it was moved. Thurman House says that the house used to be a store and barber shop.

The newest addition to Nashville is the 1982 parsonage, but one has to go back to about 1910 to the next most recent building. It was then that Wes Harter built the Roger and Tammy Schlecty's house. Wes's brother Al Harter lived in a log house that, up until the 1930's, stood between the block house and the cemetery. Flem Lane's father, Flem, first ran the blacksmith shop shortly after 1875. The church was built 1899, replacing the original 1859 building.

Nashville still retains a subtle charm of times long ago. Partly because of the older buildings, and partly because the old-fashioned aspects of a rural village long lived into the twentieth century. Glen Lane maintained his forge and bellows equipped blacksmith shop up into the 1970's. The country store provided a place for area farmers to come to in the evenings until it burned in 1955. And the Church, which originated in 1857, still remains vital to the community.

But Glen Lane no longer traps snapping turtles in Kraut Creek; Chester Teaford no longer crosses his cattle across the Palestine-Hillgrove Road twice a day for milking; and Z.H. Miley no longer brings his pet collie to the store to entertain with tricks. The water trough where the town pump once stood, and the forged horseshoe hanging from the blacksmith shop facade seem to hint that much of Nashville's activity has been left to history.

Store - James McNeil is the first proprietor of a Nashville Store that can be documented. The 1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 756, "then went into merchandising where he now resides". He resumed business after 100 days of service in the Civil War. James McNeil "was appointed Postmaster April 9, 1875, and elected Justice of the Peace in April, 1879."

The 1875 plat locates McNeil's store near where Carrie Teaford's house now stands, this being lot #1 of the original plat.

The 1877-1878 "Greenville Directory" published by Emerson and Thompson lists James McNeal as postmaster and running a dry goods store in Darke (Nashville).

August 3, 1881, James and Mary McNeal sold lot #1 to Ivens Parent. (Deed book Vol. 80-564).

This 1909 picture in front of the Nashville store includes left to right: Willie Dancer, Chester Teaford, Ive Parent, Harry Harter, Willard Parent, Flem Lane, Orville Jefferis, Mary Jane Jennings, Pearl Jefferis, Herman Westfall, Coy Fernsler, Verg Bankson, Lib Lane, and Amos Fernsler. The children in front, left to right are: Marvey Hull, Lucille Jefferis, Eugene Hull, Earl Jefferis, and Addie Harter.

Also that month, they sold to Jacob F. Sink and Ivens Parent a part of section 34 of Washington twp., beginning at the N.W. corner of section 2, German twp. and going east along the township line 7 rods, thence north 11 rods, west 7 rods, south 11 rods. (Deed book Vol. 80-565).

It was during Ive Parent's ownership then that the store moved its location across the road. There is the story of how after Ive had sold the store, he one day walked across the road to the store to buy a new pocketbook, and charged it. Some local people jokingly making the inference that if Ive didn't have the cash to pay for a new pocketbook, he shouldn't need a pocketbook.

In 1925 Chester and Carrie Teaford moved into the house Ive Parent had built.

A look at successive store owners in Nashville:

James McNeil 1862-1881;
Ive Parent 1881-1908;
William Jefferis 1908-1910;
Ive Parent bought store back in 1910;
Johnnie Jackson;
Harv Powell owned store during World War I;
Harry McCabe 1917 or 1918. He had a few drawings at the store;
George Heck;
Johnnie Jackson;
Chester Harter had store in 1925 and 1931-1934;
Glen Ross had store in 1935;
John Oeslager bought off of Glen Ross then;
Glen Ross bought store back;
Earl and Edna Early 1940;
Chester Harter had til 1945. He had sold stock, store was empty. Dispenette brought stock from the Coletown store which they had run;
Lester Dispenette 1945-Aug. 1947;
Jim Bailey 1947 - about 1949 as stayed 2 years;
Mason 1949 - Nov. 1955 when the store burned.

When Keith Stephens finished the eighth grade, he worked winters at the store. Keith worked two winters for Harry McCabe, and one winter for George Heck. Keith waited on customers, and hauled supplies to the store from Greenville in a trailer and car.

He also drove around a little taking orders, huckstering, and delivering the supplies. Keith worked 7 o'clock in the morning until 10 or 11 at night when they swept up, six days a week for $10 per week.

Keith remembers that at that time the bread was not wrapped, but came 5, 6, or 7 loaves baked together. They would tear the loaves apart, wrap in paper, and sell for about 7 or 8¢ a loaf.

They sold a lot of stick candy, salted peanuts, and cornmeal. Chocolate drops sold for 15¢/lb.

They took in cream and many people who milked churned butter and sold to the store. People out of Dayton came around to buy the butter and eggs.

When Mrs. Early had the store a seven-up man came up to the store and she said, "I want you to know we don't sell

beer here."

Ruth Deeter recalls the general store where her mother bought yardgoods, shoes, and almost everything. Peanut butter used to be sold in barrels and sold on thin wooden trays. Big square containers held bulk crackers. Tin boxes with glass fronts held an assortment of cookies. There was a salt barrel. The store also bought eggs and tested cream. And Nashville at one time had a huckster wagon.

Sunday School classes from the church were held in the store while the church was having basement put in. There was nothing in the store for this time.

Noah Warvel recalls the tobacco cakes; Ive Parent used to use a razor like blade to cut off a plug.

Marie Clemens recalls winning a can of pineapples in drawing there probably when Harter or Dispenette ran it.

The post office probably remained with the store up until RFD came in about 1910. The farmers would then pick up their mail when they would come into the store, perhaps once a week or whenever. During the winter of 1917/18, the snow was very deep, drifting, and the temperatures got to 20 below. During this winter the mail carriers could not get through. They drove cars at that time, but had to revert to horses, as also did the oil trucks to get through the deep snows. The mailmen finally got to Nashville, where they left the mail at the store for people to come in to pick up.

Blacksmith Shops - Nashville may have had the distinction of having the longest running old-style blacksmith shop, complete with large forge and bellows. Glen Lane ran the blacksmith shop into the 1970's. Though his horseshoeing gave way to plow share sharpening and mower blade sharpening. The shop was begun by his father, Flem Lane before 1875.

Virgil Deeter tells that Glen Lane used to make lucky copper horseshoes for every one of the boys who had to go to War. Glen was an excellent mechanic. His daughter had polio, and he fashioned braces to support and strengthen her legs. He became very skilled and artistic in this work, and many people came from far away to have Glen make polio braces for them. The mailbox wheel that Glen made is still by the water trough. Glen also painted pictures.

Others blacksmithed in Nashville also. David A. Clear (born 8/30/1856). "At the age of twenty-two years he commenced learning the blacksmith's trade, serving an apprenticeship of three and a half years with B.M. Bright and J.F. Lane, and mastering the trade in all its details during that time. Eighteen months of this time were spent in Coletown Darke county, and in 1882 he embarked in business at his present stand." (1900 *Biographies of Darke County,* p. 300, 301)

Lane's Blacksmith Shop

Until 1893, Ad Thomas blacksmithed in Nashville.

Wes Harter and Isiah Crick were blacksmithing in Nashville in 1893. In the 1920's, Wes Harter blacksmithed out of a wood building where Schlecty's garden now is. There may also have been an early blacksmith shop at the end of Elbert's lane.

Garage - Willard Parent built a small house where he lived west of Ive's house. He started an automobile shop there around 1915. He also had another building south of Chester Teaford's barn that he used for his garage at one time. Chalmer Burns ran the auto garage across from the blacksmith shop next. Earl House bought the garage and moved it to where Thurman now lives, and it burned in 1933. Willard's house was used as a chicken coop by Chester Teaford and it still stands at its original location.

Sharpeye

"In May following (1819) John Snell and Daniel Shively both settled on Section 27, and cleared up lands bordering on the second branch of Greenville Creek; with the others that gathered in, there was formed a Dutch settlement, thereby giving to the second branch the name of Krout Creek. Others here were Peter and John Heck, the Millers, the Raricks, and Clapps from Pennsylvania. In 1818, a number of families from New Jersey settled here, forming what was called the Jersey settlement." (1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 439)

"A reader informs us that Horseradish Hollow is Sharpeye and that until the Post Office was established that was the only name that the place was known by." (March 1904 "Democratic Advocate")

Sharpeye was the location of Darke P.O. for awhile, but probably between 1875 and 1880, changed its name with the influence of C.M. Sharp who had bought 1½ acres of lots in 1863 and 1867 on the N.W. corner of the crossroads. Mr. Sharp operated a general store where he sold whiskey. Not to be outdone by James McNeil's Nashville store which advertised their whiskey as "Red Eye", Mr. Sharp advertised his as "Sharp Eye". The name persisted and the crossroad village six miles west of Greenville became permanently "Sharpeye".

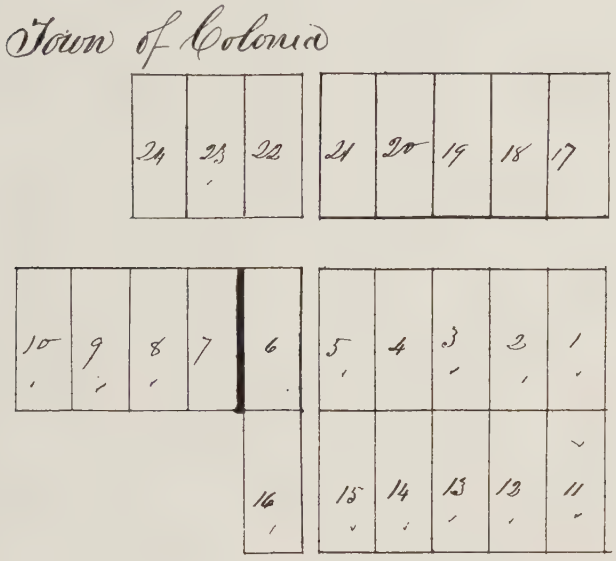
The Sharpeye store was later owned by Remley James.

Willidene Lane, daughter of Roscoe Lane, writes that Roscoe worked for his Uncle Ive Parent at the store in Nashville when he was a young man, and he stayed with Ive and Mal Parent. When Roscoe Lane married, his Uncle Ive Parent paid $600 for the store at Sharpeye, and Roscoe later paid it off. Roscoe lived in Sharpeye 40 years before moving to Greenville about 1943 or 1944. Roscoe sold the store to Theodore Shockney. Shockney sold the store to Oral Drew who ran the store from about 1956 to 1959.

Cappy and Noah Warvel recall that Roscoe Lane used to have drawings every Saturday night that would draw huge crowds. Often the people had to spill out on to the outside porch to hear the drawing announced. Roscoe bought eggs and also had a cream station in his store where Cappy would take cream on Fridays. Some of the prizes given in the draw-

ings were blankets, canner, and watch chains. Cappy and Noah recall winning a radio - the nicest thing they won there. They set it aside for a couple of years - until they got electricity!

The 1857 plat indicates I.W. Snell to have the blacksmith shop at that time. By 1875, D. Mote has the blacksmith shop between the hotel and Kraut Creek. James Long blacksmithed in the Sharpeye area in the 1880's. Ad Thomas may have gone to Sharpeye in 1893 to blacksmith. Noah Warvel recalls Ben Neff's dad had a blacksmith shop by the school house. This building then was used by Charley Reck for an auto garage. Orville Mong operated a garage around 1937. Chester Stump was a blacksmith at Sharpeye in the 1940's.



Colonia

"In this connection, it is well to recall Colona, a village located on (section) 31, which bloomed and died in a brief time. A few lots were laid out and sold, and a few dwellings were erected, but it soon became apparent that there was nothing to incite effort or induce settlement, and the vestiges of occupation soon disappeared, and few, if any, of the citizens of the township in 1880 remember or ever knew that the village of Colona ever had existence. It...was laid out on the old State road, and afforded a halting place to movers and travelers, where they might rest and might obtain food for themselves and for their teams." (1880 *History of Darke County)*

The plat of Colonia was laid out on Winchester Pike, and recorded at the county recorder's office April 13, 1839. The owners and proprietors of Colonia were John Foster and John Morris.

The 1857 plat indicates that Darke P.O. was located here at that time. A "P.O." is also shown at the Wanger Hotel to the east of Colonia. A store and a blacksmith shop are indicated at the location of Colonia in 1857.

Winchester Pike Hotels

A brief word here on the hotels along Winchester Pike. Wanger Hotel was located on Winchester Pike near where Hillgrove Southern intersects the road. Noah Warvel first moved to this location in 1912 when part of the old hotel/tavern was still standing. This included two rooms with a great big fireplace. Indians used to travel the road and would put up at this tavern, often taking advantage of the whiskey offered there. Noah recalls that most of this hotel was built out of poplar. The last vestiges of the hotel were torn down around 1923. Wanger may have owned three different hotels.

Grif Eidson notes that this hotel and the Griffis Hotel and Sharpeye Hotel were referred to as livestock hotels. Many cattlemen in Indiana and Illinois would drive their cattle along Winchester Pike to Greenville, then south on the old Wayne Trail to Cincinnati where the cattle could be marketed. The drovers apparently could keep themselves and their cattle overnight at these 'livestock hotels'.

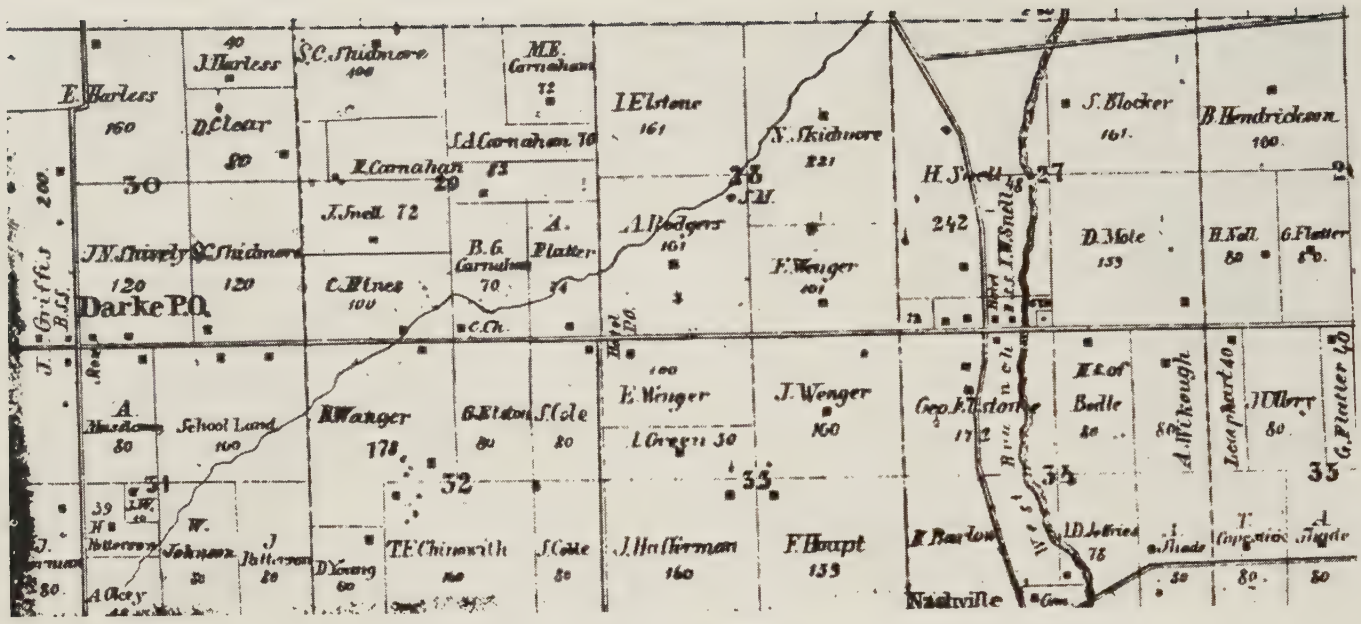
Twenty or thirty years of cattle roads until Bellefontaine R.R. dried up business in 1853. Seven or eight hundred fat cattle would be in single drove. The price of man and horse (supper, lodging, breakfast for both) was 37½ cents. Boys had to sleep in mow to make room for travelers in house. Road would be tracked in straight deep hollows as if logs had been plumped down lengthwise and taken up." (Leola Edger's notes from Randolph County history)

From Oct. 1852 newspaper: "There is a new line of coaches between this place (Greenville) and Winchester. The coaches will be comfortable and the drivers careful, the horses, fresh and excellent. Coaches connect the Dayton and Greenville Railroad, and the railroad between Winchester and Muncie. Persons arriving by cars should take the Broadway omnibus to the Broadway Hotel, and then take one of the coaches to Winchester."

Jimmie Griffis' hotel was where his brick house still stands today just west of the Ohio line. Griffis and Elston were very close because sons and daughters in their families had married. They didn't care much for the Wanger Hotel, so Jimmy Griffis sent people to the Elston Hotel.

"Six Mile House on Winchester Road. This new and commodious hotel is now open to the public, being situated six miles from Greenville on the road to Winchester, on the crossing of the Palestine-Hillgrove Road. Drivers and the traveling community are pledged constant attention to their comfort". (1853 Greenville newspaper)

Sharpeye Hotel



1857 Winchester Pike

George Elston lived in his two-story frame hotel and when he sold off 160 acres in the NW¼ of section 34, he kept 25 acres south of the hotel to fence in and use for the livestock. There was an old log barn there and he installed some scales there also.

A depression still remains in the ground where the scales were. George later sold this land about 1867.

When the Winchester Pike was later made a toll road, George Elston was the president of the toll road, and the toll house was located just west of the Wanger Hotel.

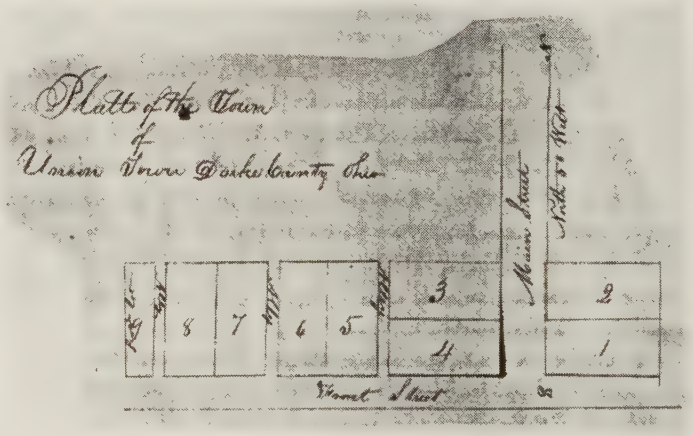
Griffis Hotel

Union Town

The following quote from page 562 of the 1914 *History of Darke County* provides interesting clues to two early communities, as well as to the beginning of Hollandsburgh.

"On March 28, 1838, James Stewart laid out the village of Union in the northeastern quarter of section 7, Harrison township, where the residence of Elihu Polly now stands, and offered lots for sale. It is said that William Hollaman, who was at that time one of the prominent men of the county, negotiated for the purchase of two or more lots, but when he came to settle with the proprietor, had a wrangle about the price, where-upon said Hollaman threatened to lay off a competitive plat on his own land in section 5 about a mile to the northeast of Union. This he did in October, 1838. In time Hollansburg outgrew Union and finally displaced it..."

The actual recording of the plat, however, indicates the surveying was done in January of 1838, and Union town was platted in the South Eastern quarter of section 7. It was also in 1838 that Union City was founded. The McIntosh/Harlan Mill was located near Union on land belonging to Lambert on the 1857 plat.



Hollansburg

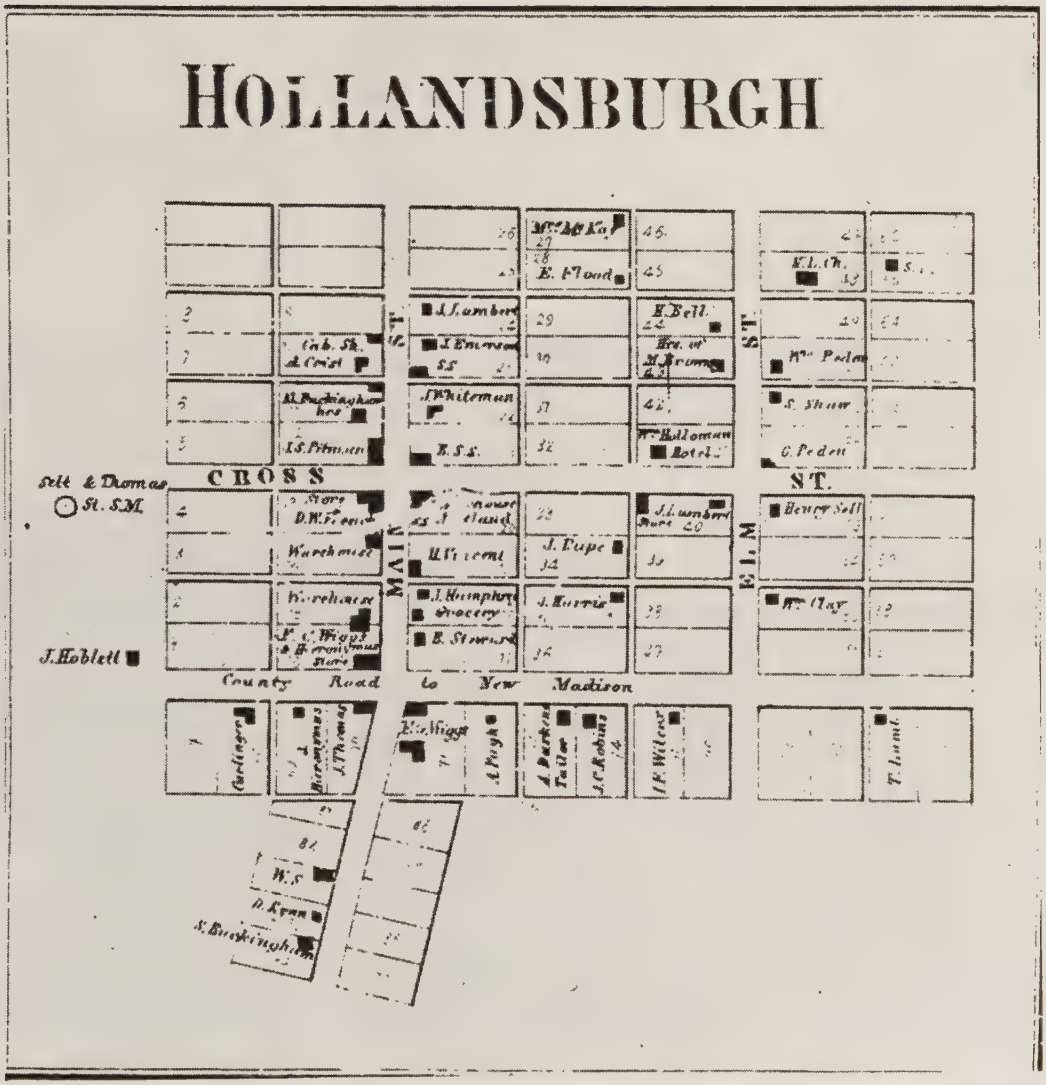
The long history of Hollansburg has paralled that of Palestine, and the history of the people of this community has intertwined with that of German township. Because of this, a brief history of Hollansburg is included in this book. It is this compiler's feeling that the history of Hollansburg merits its own book, and, hopefully, Hollansburg will publish such a book for its sesqui-centennial in 1988.

Legend has the beginnings of this historic village starting when Uniontown was laid off by James Stewart in section 7 of Harrison Twp. "It is said that William Hollaman, who was at that time one of the prominent men of the county, negotiated for the purchase of two or more lots, but when he came to settle with the proprietor, had a wrangle about the price, whereupon said Hollaman threatened to lay off a competitive plat on his own land in section 5 about a mile to the northeast of Union. This he did in October, 1838. Valentine Harland made two additions to the original plat and the new village was named by combining the first part of Hollaman's name with the last part of Harland's and adding the usual burgh, making the name Hollandsburgh, since reduced to Hollansburg. At first the village was designated 'Republican P.O.' as the postoffice of that name was transferred from section 29, German township, to the new village in 1839, and William Hollaman made postmaster."

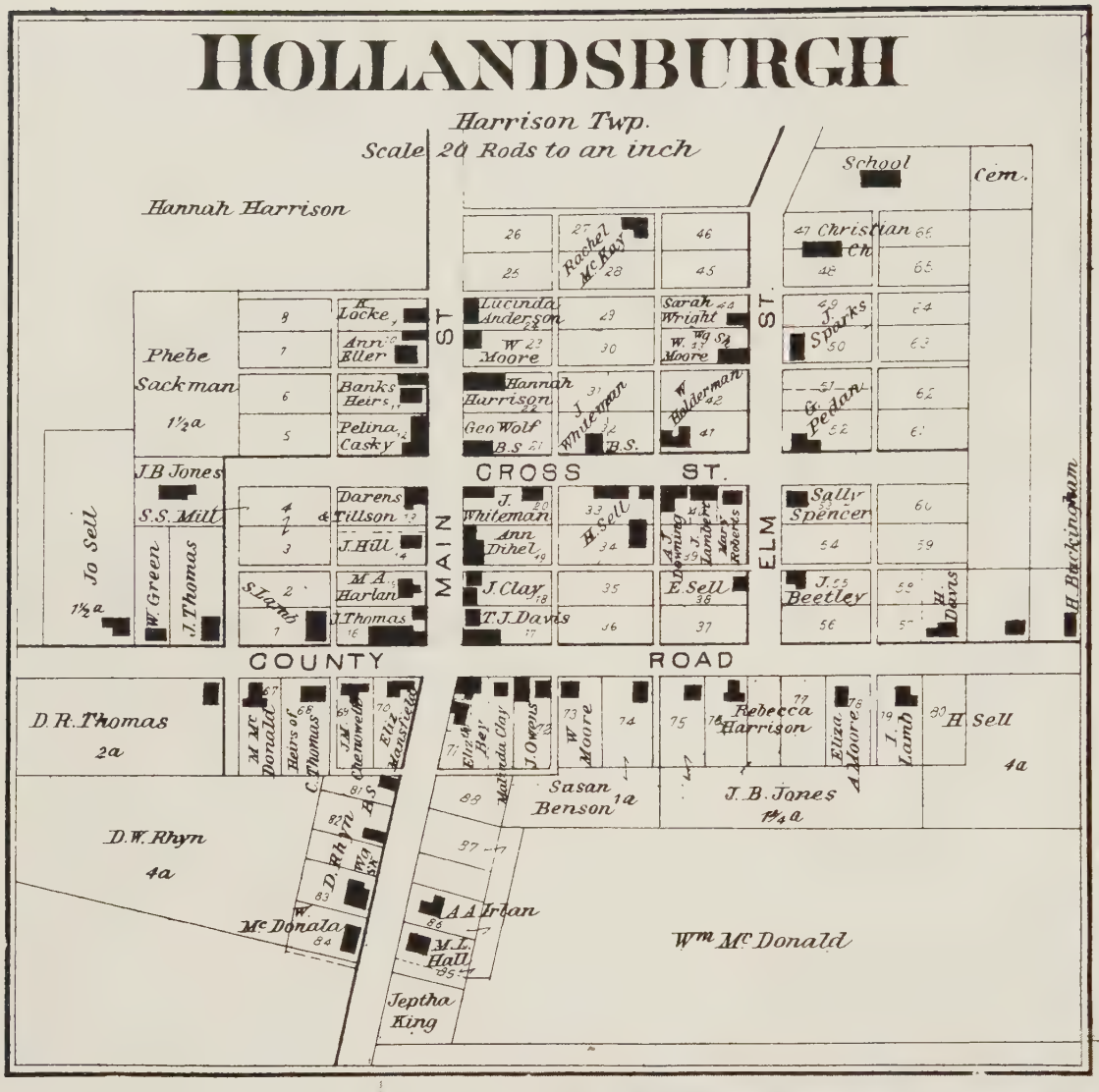
Lots 37 to 66 were platted September 4, 1838, and recorded in Deed book I-1.

1860 Census - Those listed in Harrison township near Republican include: Adam Wolfel shoemaker, Phelix Wiggs tradesman, Lorenzo D. Lambert merchant, Robert Stephson harness maker, David Reed painter, John L. Thomas boss carpenter, James Harrison blind caused by a kick of a horse, John Cummins merchant, Samuel Umphrey student of medicine, John Umphry harness maker, G.W. Giffin school teacher, Samuel Whiteman blacksmith, A. Darkus merchant, Henry S. Stockdell note sharer, Henry Sell carpenter, Ush Davis cabinent maker, G.J. Davis cabinent maker, Margaret Boyd school mistress, Elizabeth Boyd landlady, James Boyd hotel keeper, David W. Rhyne wagonmaker, Caleb S. Evans Dr. of medicine, James Scott sawyer, Ann Clingenpeel milliner, Wm. Clingenpeel merchant, Ira McClure painter, Conrad Roberts blacksmith, James W. Ruby doctor of medicine, Samuel J. Rich merchant, Sarah J. Robbins school mistress, H. Robins doctor of medicine, W.W. French merchant, Lucinda Anderson landlady, James Anderson hotel keeper, Jonathon Pitman shoemaker, C. Lock engineer, James Whiteman blacksmith.

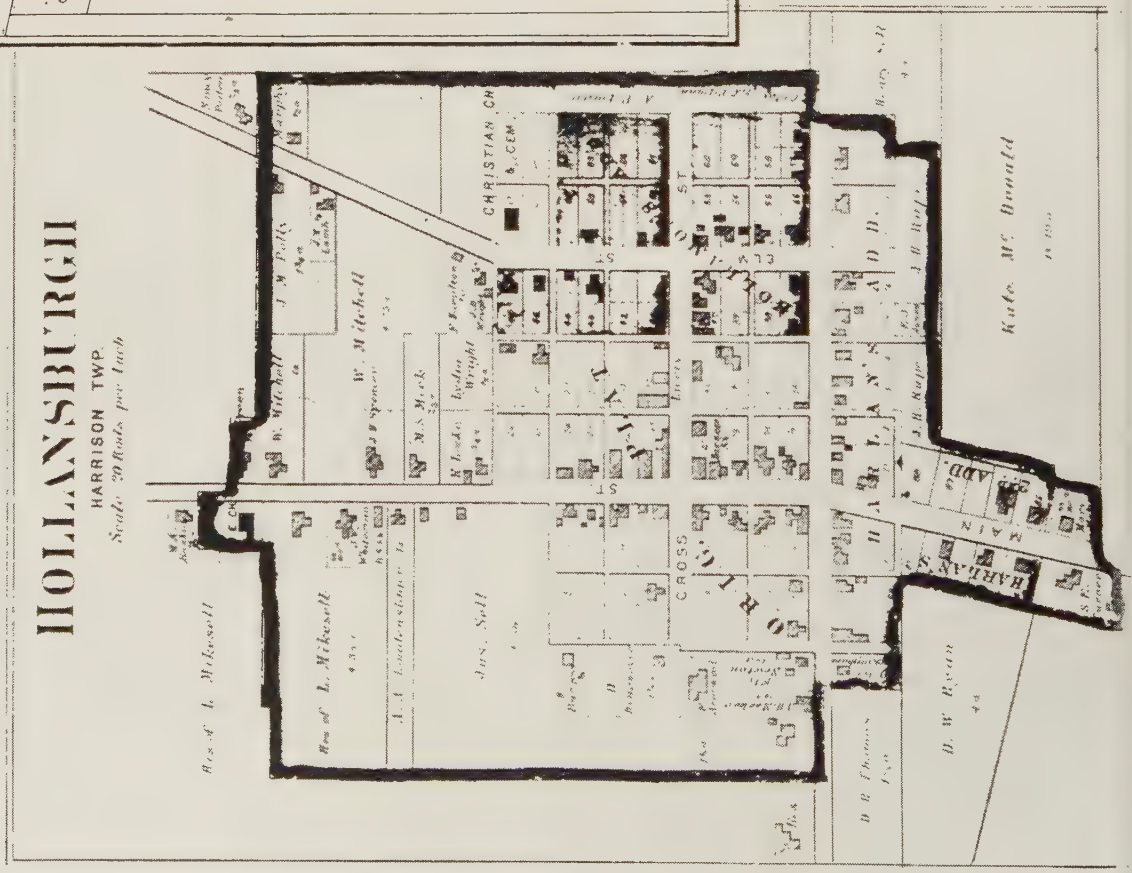
1875 Business Directory - T.J. Davis, dealer in staple and domestic dry goods, piece goods, boots, shoes, hats, caps, groceries, queensware, glassware, and a general variety of notions. James Whiteman, blacksmithing of all kinds done to order. G.A. Wolf, blacksmithing of all kinds done neatly to order. Manufacturing and repairing of plows a specialty. J.B. Jones, proprietor of steam saw mill, manufacturer and dealer in lumber and logs. Joseph Thomas, carpenter, contractor, builder, and school teacher.



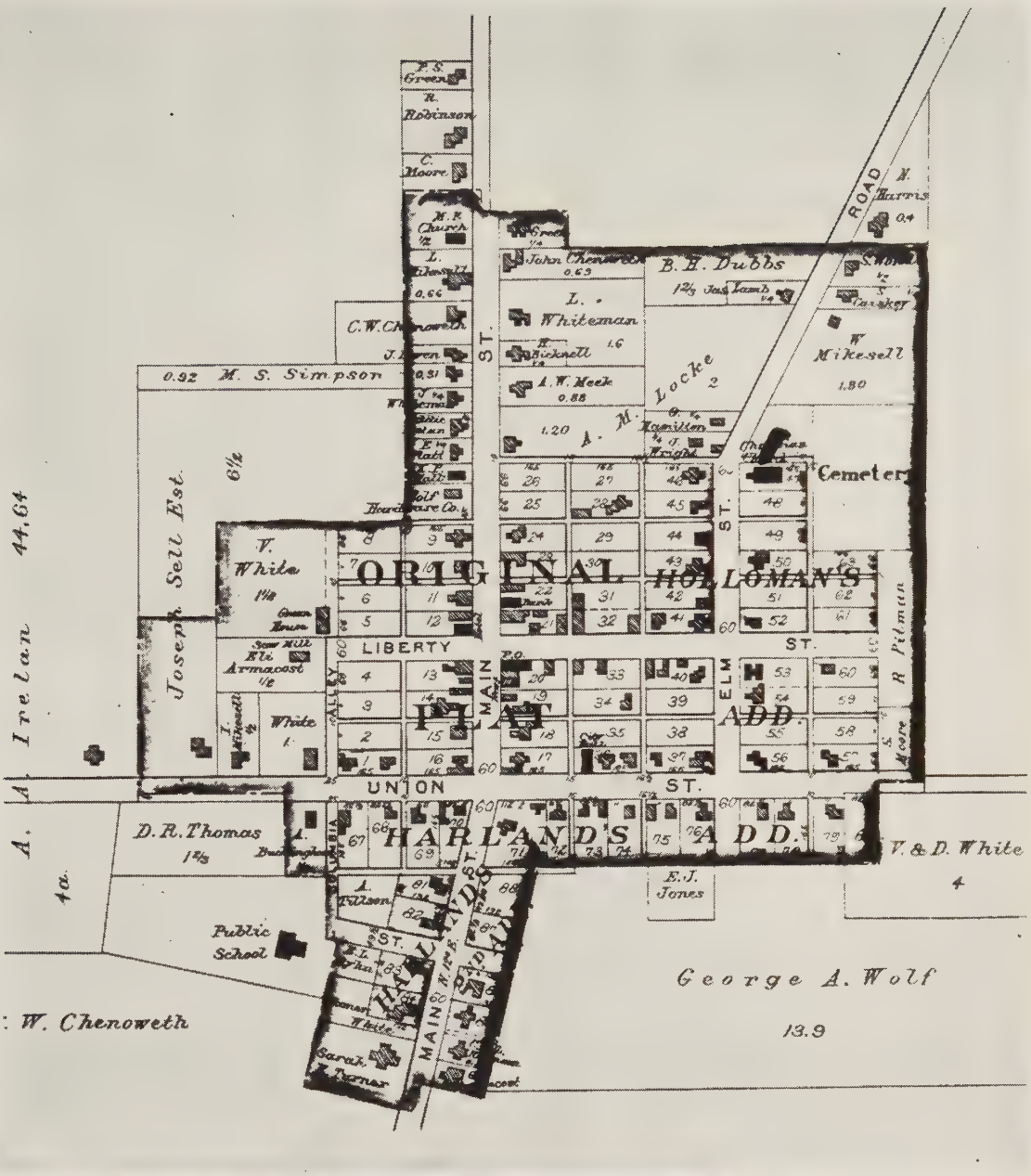
1857 Hollansburg



1875 Hollansburg



1888 Hollansburg



1910 Hollansburg

Hollansburg, Main St.
(1909 post card).

1877-1878 - These businesses were located in Hollansburgh as listed in the *Greenville Directory* by Emerson & Thompson: Mrs. Boyd hotel, Carms Brothers dry goods, T.J. Davis dry goods, A.J. Downing postmaster, William Morre wagonmaker, Whiteman & Son blacksmiths.

1908 - "Official Rural Route and Business Directory Darke County, Ohio."

Ham Beatley Livery & Feed Stable, W.H. Davis Dry Goods & Clothing, H.E. Davis Photographer, A.J. Downing Millinery, A.J. Downing Druggist, C.E. Fulkerson Cashier People Banking Co., Dr. G.W. Harley, Emma Harrison Millinery, Hollansburg News, W. Harrison & O.G. Ireland, editors, J.E. Ireland Restaurant, A. Jones undertaker, H.H. Jones Hardware & Stoves, K.T. Saw Mill, Dr. A.W. Meek, C.A. Moore Wagon Repairer, J.G. Norris Hotel, People's Banking Co., Dr. W.B. Roads, Sanitary Packing Co., W.H. Bicknell Mgr., Geo. Skinner meat market, Add Thomas Blacksmith, The D.R. Thomas Co. General Store, Miss Mildred Thomas Millinery, E.P. Ward Blacksmith, Vandalia White Florist, W.C. Williams Barber, J.D. Wright Barber, Wolf Hardward Co., Hardware, Stoves, Implements, & buggies.

1916 - From Farm Journal Rural Directory of Darke County 1916-1921, copyright 1916, published by Wilmer Atkinson Co., Philadelphia:

Garage - C.C. Hollinger, general store - W.H. Davis, general store - D.R. Thomas & Co., hardware - Whitman & Thompson, hardware - Wolf Hardware Co., harness - Chas. H. Chenoweth, machinery - C.A. Moore, meats - Coy Simpson, newspaper - The News, restaurant - B.H. Dubbs, sanitary supplies - Sanitary Packing Co., shoe repair - J.D. Wright, telephone - Hollansburg Home Telephone Co., undertaker - Amos Jones.

Newspaper - "When we moved to H-burg in 1902, the paper was the H-burg Independent, run by Charlie Ward. About 1905, I went to work in the office - learned to 'set type', etc. Later I worked in Eldorado in the Eldorado Bee office. When I was married in Lewisburg in 1907, I wrote to Grover Koontz in Eldorado, to invite him and his fiance to come to Lewisburg for the ceremony."

"He wrote back that they couldn't come, because he (Grover) had to be in H-burg to get the paper out, until arrangement could be made about it." (July 19, 1980 letter, Ethel (Lovin) Fisher)

O.G. Irelan is listed as the editor and publisher of "The Hollansburg News" in the patron's directory of the 1910 Atlas.

Page 404 of the 1914 *History of Darke County* continues: "The Hollandsburg News was established in 1907, and is now entering on the eighth year of its history. It is a standard size eight page weekly, and is published every Thursday at $1.00 per year by the Williams Company, under the editorship of Dale C. Williams. Harrison and Irelan were the former proprietors. This paper is served by the Western Newspaper Union and is a remarkable illustration of what grit and enterprise can do in a small town to promote its best interests."

Fern Williams and her husband had lived in Hollansburg for ten years owning a print shop and post office. After selling the shop to Irvin Davis and the post office to George Irelan, they moved to the country living in a tenant house from 1921 to 1939. (Richmond paper)

Photo taken in 1916 shows the first two motorized vehicles along with the volunteer firemen. Hollansburg was the first rural motorized fire department in the U.S.

Bank - The first location for the bank was above a store across the street from the bank's present location. The brick building was built about 1935-36. The patron's directory of the 1910 Atlas includes The People's Banking Company. Norman Tillson Irelan was the president of the People's Banking Company in 1914. (pg. 453, *History of Darke County*, 1914)

"BANK BANDITS TAKE ALL FUNDS FROM VAULT - Hold up men secure $10,000 from Peoples Banking company this afternoon. (July 11, 1923 newspaper)

"Bank's clerks forced to give over entire contents of vault by two gunmen. Two hold-up men robbed the Peoples Banking Company at Hollansburg of approximately $10,000 at three o'clock this afternoon. The two bandits boldly entered the bank and while one held up the two clerks, with several revolvers the other climbed over the cage and looted the vault and counter of approximately $10,000 in cash and bonds.

"Leaving the bank the two robbers drove speedily away towards the north in a large black Hudson touring car. They are reported to have passed through Glen Karn and headed towards Greenville.

"The two men are described as young and neatly dressed, one badly in need of a shave and tall and slightly built; the other was a smaller man and well dressed.

"The machine came into Hollansburg from the southwest and bore an Indiana license number 170,004 and looked as if newly painted.

"Police are watching for the fleeing bandits in all the nearby villages and towns.

"M.T. Ireland is President of the bank and Chas. Fulkers is Secretary.

"The insurance firm of Stentzel and Pendlum of Greenville wrote the insurance on the bank."

Looking east of Union St., Hollansburg (1917 post card).

"BANK BANDITS STILL REMAIN UNCAPTURED. (July 12, 1923 paper). Latest reports say they are in vicinity of Dayton. The two auto bandits who yesterday looted the Peoples Bank at Hollansburg of $8,000 apparently have eluded all officers in pursuit. A careful check up at the bank showed that they secured around $2,000.00 in cash and approximately $8,000 in bonds.

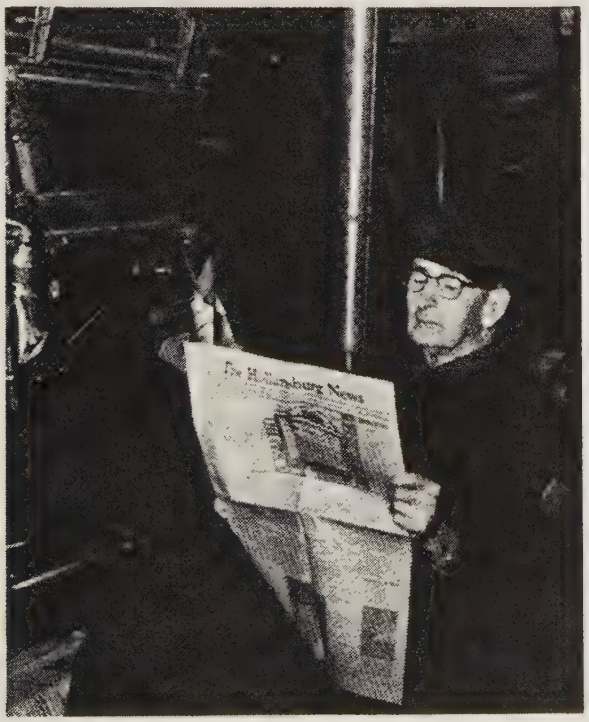
"Both men were about twenty-five years of age and are reported to have joined a companion north of Glen Karn. Then one of the bandits left the Hudson in which they were traveling and taking the loot joined the third accomplice in a Ford car. The two machines were trailed by Sheriff Browne east to the Eaton Pike where the trail was lost. Numerous people reported seeing the two machines traveling swiftly toward the east. Local officers think the bandits are in the vicinity of Dayton.

"People in Hollansburg yesterday were aware of the burglary at the time its perpetration as one man across the street went into his place of business and secured a revolver.

"This man by the name of Simison appeared in front of his meat market with his gun and saw the bandits drive away. He stated that they stalled their motor and were delayed but for some reason he could not shoot.

"Chas. E. Fulkerson, cashier of the bank says, that the loss is covered by insurance."

An article from an October 13, 1923 newspaper concludes: "Oscar Kress, 23, and Charles Davidson, 36, of Dayton plead guilty and are sentenced to serve 20 years in the Ohio Penitentiary for Hollansburg bank robbery in which they secured nearly $10,000 in cash and securities on July 11th, 1923."



Thomas "Shelly" Davis, editor of the Hollansburg News from 1921 until 1950, looks over an old copy of the paper.

Changes - "Old-timers can remember when all men wore high-topped leather boots which were a necessity during the early days of dusty or muddy roads rutted by wagon tracks.

"The chronicle of events during a half century of change was the Hollansburg News which ceased publication in 1950. The newspaper came into being as the "Independent" in 1904. Its first editor was Charles Ward who stayed with the paper for two years. In 1906 the newspaper's name was changed to the "News" and the followed a succession of several editors until Thomas I. 'Shelley' Davis took over in 1921."

"Shelly, now 82, likes to recall the days between 1915 and 1930 when the greatest changes took place. With the coming of the automobile, the villages' five blacksmith shops went out of business one by one, the streets were paved, filling stations and garages were erected and a whole new mode of living developed. These changes actually came about gradually, but measured in relation to the great expanse of time they happened very quickly, and Shelly sometimes

marvels at what he has seen.

"Garfield F. Armacost, 80, mayor Hollansburg since 1956, came to the village in 1900 as a young man, liked it so much that he decided to stay. An active man in organizations for many years, his most fond pride is being a volunteer in the local fire department for 53 years. After riding the truck for about a half a century, he now acts as a dispatcher at a two-way radio receiver in Hollinger's Garage in case of fire. The fire department has the distinction of being the first motorized rural fire department in the United States.

"The village actually began to progress economically in 1882 when the Indiana, Burlington and Western Railroad built a line about a mile north of the village. Although little goods are now shipped by rail, the community is served by various truck lines. Electricity came into being after the turn of the century. Hollansburg was served for many years by the Greenville Electric Light and Power Company. Our Company purchased the properties in 1948 and has now made enough power available to meet all demands in the foreseeable future. Natural gas came to Hollansburg in 1930, D.P. & L. acquired these gas properties from Western Ohio Public Service Company in 1948. Service is supplied from a regulator which is located a half mile north of the community." (D.P. & L. "Forward" May 1960)

1938 Centennial - Hollansburg celebrated its one hundredth anniversary October 7, 8, 9, 1938. Officers and committees for the Hollansburg centennial were Pres. C.A. Thomas, sec. T.I. Davis, treas. John Money, entertainment com. Howe (Bart) Beetley, finance com. E.J. Templeton, publicity com. G.A. Irelan, livestock com. Minor Myers, contests horse pulling Minor Myers, misc. Aaron Irelan, antiques exhibit Mr. and Mrs. J.A. St. Myers, pet parade Mrs. John Money and W.V. Payne. 4-H exhibits corn Gilbert Downing, cookery Mrs. Bart Beetley, sewing Miss Nola Tillson, woodwork W.V. Payne.

The businesses advertising on the 1938 centennial program were:

Shaffer's IGA Store "Fresh meats and groceries, fruits and vegetables. We buy cream, eggs, poultry."

Kraft-Phenix Cheese Corporation Glen Karn.

Downing & Downing real estate brokers, Hollansburg.

Barbering Ladies - Children - Men Haircutting 25¢. Ladies or men shampoo 25¢. Chal. Caskey, Barber Hollansburg.

Blume's Wallpaper and Paint Store Dean & Berry Paints Imperial Wallpaper - oil, turpentine, painters supplies, A Paint for Every Purpose. Hollansburg.

W.A. Chenoweth Co. welcomes you to our store during the centennial. Make our Store headquarters for your winter's supplies — Sweaters — Work gloves — overalls — work sox — dresses hosiery — blankets — linoleums — rugs — stove pipe, stove boards, etc. Our grocery Department can supply you with all your Eats — Canned Goods — Vegetables — Fruits — fresh and cured meats. Highest Market Price Paid for Produce. W.A. Chenoweth Co. Glen Karn, Ohio.

Cold Beer, soft drinks, sandwiches, candy, cigarettes, tobacco, cigars. Mack's Place Glen Karn.

W.C. Williams barber forty-five years in one location still going strong. Hollansburg.

H.A. Wilson Contractor and builder Estimates freely given. Hollansburg.

Simpson Meat Market Fresh and Smoked meats. Hollansburg.

Sand Gravel Stone sharp clean material for your cement work. See us for prices - Let us figure with you on your requirements. Hollinger Gravel Plant. New Madison, Ohio and Palestine, Ohio. R.S. Hollinger Prop. New Madison Phone 4.

Dr. G.W. Harley Hollansburg.

Money's Restaurant Hollansburg.

Young's Service Station Sohio Gas - Oil and Greases Hollansburg.

Petry's Grocery. grocery, fruits, fresh and cured meats, notions, candy, cakes, pies. We buy Cream, Eggs and Poultry. We also give Trading Stamps on Free Premiums. Your Patronage Appreciated Phone 23 Hollansburg.

Ed Magee electrical work house wiring, etc. Hollansburg.

Dr. J.P. Gibbel Hollansburg.

Richards & Simpson grain dealers mill feed, seeds, salt, coal Glen Karn.

Dick's Pool Room Ice cold soft drinks, cigars, tobacco. C.E. Geisinger Hollansburg.

Van White Grower of Plants and Vegetables Hollansburg.

Minor Myers & Son breeders of Guernsey cattle Hollansburg.

Davis Funeral Service Ambulance Service Hollansburg.

Omer Platt general auctioneer Hollansburg.

Prevent unexpected battery failure by using our free service Call on us regularly every two weeks or so. We will be glad to give your battery complete inspection regardless of its make. When you need a new battery, play safe and let us install an Exide battery. Hollinger's Garage Hollansburg.

The Hollansburg News also Job Printing Kodak films, developing and printing school supplies.

Mills' Grocery & Cream Station cash buyers of cream, poultry and eggs. Groceries, hardware - notions - feeds. Distributors of Dairy Maid pasteurized milk products we deliver daily. Hollansburg.

The Shirley Canning Co. Packers of Fancy Hand-Packed tomatoes and catsup Glen Karn.

Baker

Baker received its name from Jacob Baker who ran the Baker Store for many years. Baker was on an old wagon road. Jacob Baker's brothers George and David were also in the area. The post office there went by the name of Baker. Frank Baker recalls that mail was delivered from Greenville to Baker Store, then Palestine, Nashville, Sharpeye, and back to Greenville.

The Greenville-Palestine Road entering Baker from the north used to be known as the Baker Store Road. It was on this road that Eli Teaford started a load of wheat hauled by oxen. The oxen got thirsty and pulled off the road to get water and upset the wagon of wheat. There was no way to guide the oxen except with a stick and hollering at them.

The old store was at the southeast corner of the intersection. To the east of the store was the Band Hall, and east of the Band Hall was a building which served as both wagon shop and blacksmith shop.

John Odie made wagons in the wagon shop. The wagon

shop lasted until the Studabaker factory made wagons; this cut down on those made by hand.

The Opera Hall or Band Hall had a stage and curtain. The stage was the setting for plays, comedy, music, and good violin playing. It was torn down when 36 was improved. Nellie (Stephens) Fowble remembers when the Band Hall would be packed with people coming to see a traveling medicine show. Medicine men used to put on shows in Nashville, Sharpeye, Baker's Store, and Palestine. The Baker Store band would play for them. The Woods brothers were the instigators of the band. Bob Dalrymple was one of the band members. He lived above the old store and had a shop where he mounted small animals and birds. He was also interested in photography and Indian relics. Ciphering matches and spelling bees were held in the Band Hall also. Frank Baker recalls one night a man in dark glasses got on stage and said, "I'm a man blind, destitute circumstances; I've got a family of 13 children, couldn't see what I was doing." Frank had an old carp in a wooden water trough for livestock to see how long it would live. Three water troughs and 23 years later the carp was still swimming.

Al Stephens was an early blacksmith and he lived in the second house west of the intersection on the south side of the road.

Other commercial enterprises were the broom factory run by David Wise, the Brumbaugh tile factory, and the Beef Hall where meat was slaughtered and sold.

The 1880 plat gives this information on J.H. Brumbaugh, tile manufacturer. Works situated one-fourth mile east of Baker P.O. A large stock now on hand at lowest market price.

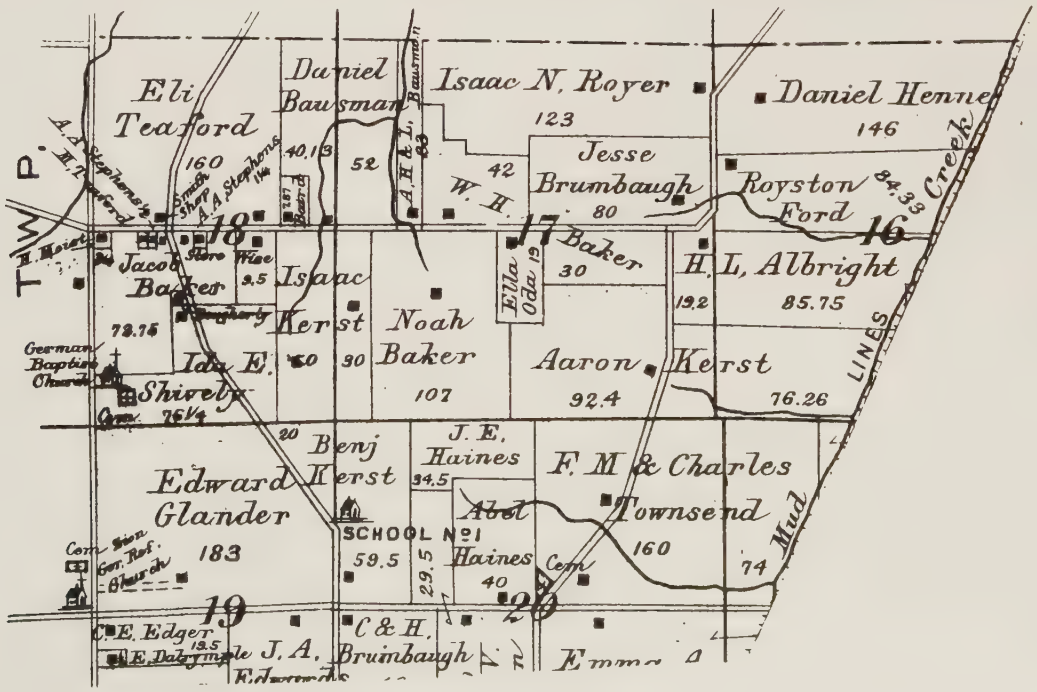
Stores - During the course of Baker's history, there have been as many as four different stores and several more store owners.

The main and oldest store was the brick building built 1848 by Jacob Baker, and was operated as a grocery until 1958. Jacob lived in the house on the southwest corner. Frank Baker was born 1883, and spent most of his life in the Baker area. He recalls the store had a pebble dash lean-to added to make the store bigger. The store handled general delivery, grocery, dry goods, and barrels of whiskey. Hucksters operated out of Baker Store and Frank recalls Wilson Lewis, Dave Weaver, David Spielman, and Sam Hamilton.

Jacob Baker died May 11, 1918. He was born January 16, 1828, and came with his parents in 1832 to Neave township. Samuel and Catherine (Brumbaugh) Baker had a family of fourteen sons and daughters. Jacob's obituary adds, "At the age of 20 he embarked in the mercantile business only a few rods from the place where he lay himself down to sleep of the righteous. In this business he continued for a period of about 37 years, retiring there from 33 years ago, being succeeded by his only son Henry and his son-in-law E.M. Kerst. He was one of the small minority of business men who really prosper and succeed in such a venture. But by frugality and strict attention to business he merited the degree of success which he attained. During his early manhood he worked for 50¢ per day, labored twelve hours a day and saved more of his wages than a young man does today, working in our busy industrial centers, earning fifty cents per hour." Thus this indicates Jacob Baker ran the store from 1848 to 1885.

An 1855 newspaper article refers to the Baker and Brumbaugh Store, so, Baker may have had Brumbaugh as an early partner. Perhaps the transaction from Deed book I-2-187 is a clue to this partnership: Henry and Elizabeth Brumbaugh sold to David Brumbaugh and Jacob Baker part of the SW¼ of section 18 in Neave township, beginning at a post on the north line of said ¼ section 22 chains 90 links from the NW corner, June 7, 1853.

The 1900 *Biographical History of Darke County,* page 568, gives this information on David Weaver, "In 1894, he embarked in his present business at Baker and now carries a well selected stock of general merchandise. He has built up a large trade by fair and honorable dealing and has gained the



1910 Baker

confidence of all with whom he has come in contact, either in business or social life."

The 1908 Rural Directory indicates that Sam F. Hamilton has the general store at this time. Nellie (Stephens) Fowble recounts that when Hamilton bought the store and band hall, he had the floor town out of the band hall, and used it for a stable.

Ira Baker may also have run this store. Nellie adds that John Odie and Pierce ran the store. Frank Baker recalls other store owners Elmer Brumbaugh, Sil McCabe, Dave Spielman, and Frank Kauts.

The Teafords built a store at the NW corner. They had a scale shed beside their store. A radio club may have used this building before it too was razed in the 1964 widening of 36. ("Palidium Item & Sun Telegram" July 16, 1964)

Eli Teaford had an ice house. Ira Edger used to help cut the ice from Noah Baker's pond and Henning's pond. The ice house was by Monnie Price's house and much saw dust was used to insulate the ice.

Ira Baker who had run one store previously, bought the blacksmith shop and tore down. He used this wood to build a store room on the west side of Al Stephens' house (2nd house west). He ran a grocery store out of this. Two or three others followed Ira in running a store here. This building still stands, but the store room has been removed. (Nellie Fowble)

At one time there were two stores in Baker operating simultaneously.

And Frank Baker said that at one time someone had run a store somewhere south of town.

Jacob Baker house

Jacob Baker's Day Book

The Garst Museum has an old day book from Jacob Baker's store covering store accounts from October 1883 to September 1885. To take a step back into time 100 years ago, let us look at some of the accounts from this book.

Food - The foods supplied by this old country store were very basic staples for the area people. Before refrigeration and canning, the meats were salt cured and the fruits were dried. Bread was either baked at home, or crackers from the barrel were purchased. Mostly brown sugar was supplied,

Dale Straight home - Store town down 1962-63.

but later "White A sugar" came to the stores by the barrel, though still not granulated. Candy was sold from glass jars. And on the shelves were a seperate jar for each of the stick candies: horehound, wintergreen, & peppermint. Buckwheat flour by the sack were popular, although millers attempted to mix buckwheat and wheat for the flour as buckwheat oil gummed up the buhr stones. Consumers preferred plain buckwheat however. Coffee beans were purchased green, then would be roasted and ground at the home kitchen. Lion brand coffee was popular, and people who cut the lion's head from the sack could send in for a premium. Rice by the sack, salt by the barrel. Ginger snaps too, came by the barrel. Oysters were sold in months containing an "R". Boxes of prunes and raisins and also dried apples and dried peaches were popular. Plugs of tobacco were cut with a sharp tobacco cutter from dried twists. There were many brands of tobacco including Dogleg twist, J.T., Star, Days Work, and Plain Shed Navy (unseasoned). Smoking tobacco was in powder form and sold in bags. Fish were sold in a wooden tub or bucket called a "kit".

Here are some examples from the Baker Store book and their prices: Jonathon Wagoner tobacco 8, cask 25, telephone 15, crackers 25, flour 75, tea 50. Ad Steinmetz sugar 1.00, coffee 50, salt 10, cask 4.00, telephone 15. John Hollinger mittens 1.50, meat 40. David Baker gloves 30, telephone 20, candy 20, balogna 15. Henderson Parent coffee 1.00, raisins 25, Baking powder 30, vanilla 15, crackers 20, salt 5, cinn. 10, tartar 10, nutmeg 10, soda 5, candy 5, batting, flannel 1.35, flannel 12, gingham 33, collar 15, thread 35, calico 1.00. Jacob Garland sugar 1.00, coffee 40, rice 10, baking powder 15. William Deth mustard 10. Samuel Miller potatoes 50, syrup 30. Harv Daugherty Baking Powder 15, comb 10, Alum 5. Uris Davis Jelly 20, candy 10, candy. Gib Ross coffee 30, rice 25, currants 20, sugar 25, Bak powder 15, seeds 35, oil 20. E.B. Hollinger yard 20, Hominy 9, Cr. tartar 5. Emanuel Flory Tea 90, pitcher 25, tobacco 25, candy 5, suspenders 12, salt 10. Jonathon Wagoner sugar 25, raisins 15, sugar 50, peaches 50, soda 10, crackers 25, coffee 20, rice 20, towling 63, overshoes 1.50, soap 10, comb 25, spoons 25, pins 10, gloves 1.35. Isaac Hollinger sugar 50, coffee 50, pepper 10, ginger 10, bluing

10, B. Powder 25, butter 38. Even Kerst sugar 50, Hominy 10, Beans 10, Prunes 20, thread 5, candy 5, B. Powder 30. Ad Steinmetz thread 15, twist 5, meal 18. David Baker Buckwheat Flour 40. Samuel Miller cornmeal 25, apples 20. Catherine Baker Ginger snaps 15, pipe 2. Frank Strader oyster 25, crackers 25, butter 25. Frank Strader sugar 30, peaches 25, Lemon 10, eggs 4. Jacob Brumbaugh 1 lb. ground pepper 30. Evan Kerst sug 80, snaps 15, prunes 20, candy 10, soda 5, baking powder 15, 1 set toy dishes 1.00. Samuel Miller Molasses & Rice 50. William Hains Lard 38, Bird seed 10. Mina Davis pepper 13, salt peter 13, sugar 10. Uris Davis raisins 25, peaches 20, plums 15, calico 8. Doc George Calderwood sugar 1.00, coffee 40, currants 25, peaches 15, apples 40, lemon 10, corn 15, salt 13, flannel 55, hoes 20, handle 15, thread 5, pins 5, cologne 25, globe 15. Emanuel Hollinger 1 Rid Fish 85. Samuel Lindamood 2 quarters Mackerell 5.00. Catherine Baker 1 Rid pickerell 85. John Crumrine oysters 25, crackers 25, lemons 15. L.H. Parent rice 50, prunes 50, apples 40, raisins 28, tobacco 25, Lemons 20, C. meal 25, muslin 50, lace 32. Thomas Fennerd ¼ Bbl. Pickerell 2.00. Ad Steinmetz bacon 45, tobacco 15, eggs 25. Evan Kerst sugar 62, starch 10, cheese 15, rice 10, prunes 10, tacks 5, seeds 5, mosquito bar 30. William Death broom 25, nutmeg 5, cinnamon 5, Ex. lemon 10. Emanuel Flory tobacco 10, pipe and stem 2. Unis Davis sugar 25, coffee 20, cinnamon 10, cloves 5, cigars 10. Ad Steinmetz bread 50, butter 15, cash $5.00, nails 5, nutmeg 50. William Deth Flax seed oil 13. E.B. Hollinger Ess. Peppermint 10. Gordon Cloyd 22 lb. meat 2.20, molasses 25, calico 65, calico 75, gloves 35, thread 5. Catherine Baker beef 20. Catherine Baker calico 12, melon 5, handkerchief 5. David Baker hose 25, candy 10, orange 5, stamp 10.

Tailor - Ad Steinmetz was a tailor living in Baker, above the store as he paid a monthly rent to Jacob Baker. Orders would be taken and paid for in the store by Jacob, and Ad would make the clothes. Some of the clothing made by Steinmetz is shown from these entries:

Ad Steinmetz - Charley Baker suit 3.50, Wil Shuler pants 1.25, Calderwoods suit 7.00, Stephans suit 4.50, Rodehamel suit 7.00, Jes Brown suit 5.00, Noah Baker coat 2.25, Dan Hollinger overcoat 5.00, Simons coat 4.00, Lewis Dininger suit 1.50, by Charley Heck fixing coat 40. A.L. McMeans suit of Clothe to make 25.00. Ad Steinmetz credit band suits, Hufer pants.

Clothing - The store had other clothes on the shelf for those who wanted store-bought clothes.

Samuel Kerst suspenders 35, tobacco 25. David Baker shoes 1.50, shoes 90, slippers 90. Hollinger, suit of clothe for boy 15.00, 1 pair pants 4.50, 2 pair overalls 2.00. David Weaver Day Book Pencil 30, one suit of Clothe 23.00. Ad Steinmetz eggs 22, Shoe Laces 3. Richard Woods suit of clothes 28.00. Unis Davis 2 under vests 2 under drawers 2.80. Silvan Bookwalter 2 undershirts 2 pair drawers 2.50. David Weaver overcoat 17.00. Frank Strader overalls 90. Ed McClure overalls to make 90. Sadie Steinmetz Corset, Cambric, Muslin. Frank Strader 1 pair sandals, 1 skirt 1.90. David Baker oil 20, earmuffs 15. John Crumrine sugar 1.00, hat 50, nectie 25, collar 20, handkerchiefs 75, butter 5. C.M. Dalrymple handkerchief 1.25, collar 15, cuffs 25. John McEldowny straw hat 40. Charley Stover suit of Clothes cutting 21.00, 1 pair gaiters 75. Henry Lusen shirt 1.00, handkers 1.00, cologne 25, bleaching 10. Martin Stack 1 pair pants, blue jeans 1 pair shoes. Isaac Kerst 2 drawers, 2 undershirts, 1 pair boots 5.00. Charley Brumbaugh nectie 25, peanuts 5. Mary Hollinger 1 box collars 20.

Material - Of course, not everyone could afford store-bought or tailor made clothing, so the store of 100 years ago provided many different materials for those skilled in home sewing.

Luster was a glossy dress fabric of cotton or wool. Cassimere is a thin twilled woolen cloth used for men's suits. Delaine was a light weight cloth, formerly of wool, now usually of cotton and wool. Silesia was a strong, lightweight linen or twilled cotton cloth used for linings. Drilling, also a kind of cloth. Cambric was very fine, thin linen or cotton cloth like this. Crinoline was a coarse stiff cloth of cotton or silk used as lining for stiffening garments; formerly made of horsehair and linen. Indigo was a blue dye.

Doc George Calderwood shoes 1.50, Musline 20, Delain 1.90, cambric 64, undervests 1.40, drawers 1.30, hose 25, hanker 1.00, buttons 30, thread 30, needle. Jeremiah Buechly 9 lb. batting 1.35, muslin 18, pipe 25, skain yard 60. Robert Dalrymple 7/8 yd. Benerteen 75. Sarah Worch Delain 2.70, Calico 1.20, Drilling 25, hose 50, calico 28, thread 10, ribbons 10, butter 15, candy. George Baker cambric, muslin 40, selicia 30, crinlin 30, buttons 30, thread 10, butter 5. Ad Steinmetz Brocaid 20, muslin 10, calico 7, butter 75. Benjamin Wagner Canton Flannel 20, thread 5, paper 10. Henry Fall hose 30, collar 15, calico 50, thread 5, buttons 10, indigo 10. Henry Dubbs 4 yds. nautstuff 1.00, casimere 1.50, denim 60, muslin 7, thread 10, 2 hats 4.25, coffee 1.00, sugar 1.00, peaches 30, tobacco 55, dills 25. David Baker onions 5, shoes 75, gingham 22, linsy 20, candy 10. Ad Steinmetz beans 25, coffee 20, calico 21, cob 25, thimble 5. Daniel Hollinger boots 5.35, shoes 1.25, shoes 30, soap 10, cracker 10, Swiss 45, shirting 30, muslin 20, calico 33, calico 25, paulstuff 1.80, drilling 50, muslin 25, hose 70, thread 15, dress goods 15, muslin 32, sugar 25, hat 1.00. George Stump calico 23, denim 80. Henderson Parent cambrice 20, crinoline 30, thread 5. David Baker gingham 1.30, calico 83, muslin 50, ticking 68, hose 85, 2 pair shoes 3.00, batting 63, hat 50. Jacob Henning cimpoline, thread and Bible. Milton Keener calico 60, Nansook 35, Lace 50, thread 10, sugar 33. David Baker butter, cotton 13, pins 10, oil 20, eggs 28, towling musling. George Edger sugar 50, coffee 20, crackers 10, muslin 1.50, embroidering 1.25, inserting 75, rubber 10, thread 10. Milton Keener 9½ yd. Cashmier 7.00, 14 yd. Luster 2.80, 6 calico 38, 6 muslin 48, 3 drilling 30, thread 45, buttons 20.

Medicine - The following excerpts from the Baker Store book provide an insight into the items used for human and animal medicinal purposes.

Camphor, although it could be used to protect fabrics from moths, was used in medicine as an irritant and stimulant, and sometimes supplied as camphor gum. Cinchonidia was used to reduce fever. A paregoric was a medicine that soothed and lessened pain. It was a comphorated tincture of opium used in cough mixtures and to relieve diarrhea and other stomach problems. Castoreum was a stimulant, Anodyne - a pain reliever, and landanum a solution of opium in alcolhol. Quinine was used as a health preservative and considered good for colds. Frank Baker

remembers it as extremely bitter, so would take it mixed with applebutter or fruit. He also recalls Croton Oil.

Miss Adavier recalls asoficida used to hang around necks to keep illness away - smelled terrible. Newt made them take quince once a week mixed in coffee - Adavier still doen't like coffee.

Ad Steinmetz sugar 50, tobacco 8, cash, sulphur asofactida 25, and c. 15. Harve Daugherty 5 yd. cartene, Flanel 50, Cough Balsam 50, ink 5, buttons 10. David Baker camphor 20, safety pins 5. Emanuel Hollinger sulphur 10, salt 8. John Oda horse powders 50. Ad Steinmetz calico 38, thread 15, glyserine 10, snaps 15, hook 5. James Fall 1 bottle Folies Balsam 50, overalls 90. Abel Haims Foleys Cough Balsam. Emanuel Flory German Syrup 75. Henry Baker sugar 22, coffee 20, prunes 20, licorice 5, work medicine 25, peaches 25. Henry Beninger Boston Cough Balsam 25. Frank Strader Quinine 20, crackers 14. Al Garland landanum 20, castor oil 10. William Death cinchonidia 1.25, paper and envelopes 5. L.H. Parent Ginger 40, Paregoric 15, collar 15. Henry Baker mint lozenges 5. Val Barnhart blood purifier 50. Samuel Miller cheese 15, soothing syrup 25. Frank Setty Castora 35. Jacob Brumbaugh bottle Warners Safe Cure 1.25. John Luts 6 vial landanum 60, 1 lb. tobacco 55. Hiram Kiester sugar 50, cordial 10. Henry Baker Blackberry Anodine, vinegar. Samuel Kerst blackberry Anodyne 25. Ad Steinmetz tobacco 15, 1 box worm lezenges 25. Samuel Kerst Landanum 10, peppermint 10. Henry Weaver Linimint 50. Woods 1 box pills 25. Jacob Brumbaugh 1 bottle Ares Blood Purifier 1.00.

Credit - Several area people would bring in their goods for credit. Jacob would enter the value in his ledger to credit to their accounts.

Doc George Calderwood credit by Jacob Brumbaugh $52.00. David Bennett credit 27 bushel of corn for A. Steinmetz 10.80. Jonathan Wagner credit 1 hide 62 lbs. 3.10. Sadie Steinmetz credit cash 2.00 making dress for Jessie 1.00. Samuel Kerst credit 21.20 lbs. hay @ $10 per ton 10.60. Michael Lindamood credit 40 lbs. Cloverseed 3.33. Henderson Parent credit 82½ lb. side meat 8.25. Emanuel Hollinger credit ½ doz. brooms. William Wade credit 42 lb. soap. Michael Lindamood credit 4 qt. Rasberrie 40. David Woods credit 65 lbs. wood @ 12 - 14.30. Jeremiah Beachly credit 142 lb. wool @ 20 - 11.56. W.H. Warner credit 13½ doz. eggs and 35 lb. rags 1.35 and 35. Jacob Brumbaugh credit 1350 lb. hay 6.75 - 2¼ days hauling 5.63. William Wade credit 2 bushels and 9 lb. beans 4.30. George Stump credit lg. cask 14.05. John Hollinger credit 4 cord and 53 ft. Wood at $2.00 - 8.82. Samuel Kerst credit eggs and rags 27.

Weighing - Frank Baker recalls that the store had platform scales for weighing. Frank also recalls using Stilliard scales in the store to weigh produce.

Samuel Lindamood tobacco 35 weighing sheep 20. William Deth Hog Rings 20 and weighing hogs 40. Even Kerst weighing 8 load of corn 1.50.

Telephone - Perhaps the most surprising item found in the day book is the reference to telephone. Apparently even 100 years ago, a few places had a telephone. One must have been in the store and at other places around the county, and anyone wishing to make a call would come to the store.

Jonathan Wagner nails 5 telephone to Gettysburg 20. Jonathanon Wagner telephone to Arcanum. Alvis Davis 2 telephones to Palestine 30. Henderson Parent telephone to New Paris 25. W.B. Band telephone to Manchester 25. West Branch Band telephone to Arcanum 20. David Baker cracker 20, coffee 18, oysters 15, telegram 25. W.U. Baker telephone and messenger service to Nerails 25. Samuel Lindamood telephoning to Doc Licklider 20.

Baker store was a "general store" so besides food and clothing, all kinds of items could be found there.

Hunting & Fishing - Frank Strader Gun Wads 20 - 1 yd. oil carpet 50. Joseph Keister powder and shot 20. Benjamin Wagoner lead 7, powder 10. Ad Steinmetz shot 45, powder 25, bucket 35, tin cups 10, sugar 16. William Death powder 10, led 10, caps 10. David Baker marcherell 25, eggs 92, fish line 7. David Baker sugar 150, fish hooks 5.

Food Preparation - Henderson Albright meat tubs 600, lard press 550. David Baker 16 tin cans 100 skirting 98 yard 25. Benjamin Wagoner 2 doz. can lids 15 soap 10. Frank Strader sealing wax 5 wax 2. John Hollinger side meat 165 glass cans 90 tobacco 55 wax 10 - 3 Bbls. 30. Uris Davis 2 stone jars 100. Uris Davis 4 crocks 40 1 jar 40 cheese 5. John Hollinger jug 15 basket 85½ bushel measure 75.

Pest Control - Frank Baker remembers that a mosquito bar was like shredded newspaper around a stick used to ward off flies.

Daniel Baker yarn 15 fly paper 5. L.S. Parent bird seed 10 hinges 20 Fly dope 5. Jonathan Wagner mosquito bar 50 Screen wire 70 calico 96 handkerchiefs 20 fan 5 tacks 5. David Baker eggs 28 lard 54 mouse trap 25 caster oil 50. David Baker rat trap 30 straw hat 25.

Kitchen, Laundry, Carpet - William Deth Butcher knife 50 Tobacco 25. Samuel Kerst Set cups and saucers 65. Ad Steinmetz Dish Pan 65 Salt 10 Dipper 13. Ad Steinmetz plates 60 tumblers 31 lemons 20 glass 8 sugar 50 flour 75. Uris Davis coffee mill 125. Frank Strader Wash board 85 Kit Pickerel 30. Hiram Keister wash tub 90. William Wade yarn 50 oil 30 lamp 60 carpet Warp 368 tobacco 55. Emanuel Flory carpet tacks 10. Milton Keener 12 lb. rags 80 1 skain warp 12. Samuel Miller 10 lb. carpet warp 220.

Shaving - John Mceldowny Rasor strop 50 cup 15 brush 15 soap 10 allum 2.

Lamps & Candles - George Edger lard oil 100 Resin 20 Tallow 15. Frank Strader Globe 10 wicks 3 vinegar 12 oil 10. Daniel Bolinger lantern burner 25 globe 10. David Baker 1 coal bucket 65. William Wade coffee 100 lamp 60 cracker 25. W.U. Baker Japan land oil 30. Jacob Brumbaugh 6 gal. coal oil 1.10. Benjamin Wagoner land oil.

School Supplies - Ed McClure sugar 36 coffee 20 oil 10 geography 75. Frank Strader Spelling book 95 3 lb. sugar 27. Samuel Kerst Mental (arithmetic book) 35 1 slate 15 pencils 2.

Seed - G.B. Hollinger cabbage seed 5. Milton Keener onion sets 45. L.H. Parent garden seeds 120. Jacob Brumbaugh cucumber seed 10. Anna Kerst sugar 25 turnip seed 5.

L.H. Parent Gingham 75 Seeds 15 S.M. Oil 10.

Nails - Adam B. Miller hat 75 nuts 55 waist 90 Rought nails 10 12 lb. nails 51. L.H. Parent Hinges and Butts 30. Jacob Brumbaugh 3 lb. spikes 12½ rought nails 12½. W.U. Baker lb. glue 35 lb. finish nails 15. Jacob Brumbaugh 2 doz. Rivets 10. Jacob Brumbaugh keg 8d nails 300. Benjamin Wagner Hinges 25 Wrought Nails 28 Spikes 20 oil 20 Vinegar 25 bit 12 curry comb 20. W.U. Baker 2 doz. bolts 35 1 brace bit 20 bolts 5 screws 15.

Shop & Tools - George Edgar 2 files 60. Isaac Hollinger Ax handle 40. John Crume scoop shovel 110 basket 100 basket 85. Emanuel Flory 2½ Flannel threads Gimlet (small boring tool). Benjamin Wagner Oil Can 75 oil 20. Ed Mc Clure 1 pair shoes 100, ½ gal. machine oil 38. Benjamin Wagoner 1 spade 100. Samuel Sentman Axe 100 Handle 40 tobacco 10. George Brumbaugh chalk line by F. Strader. Ben Wagoner 10 in. plier 50, 21 lb. wire 94. John Luts Neatsfoot oil whetstone candy. Benjamin Wagner scythe stone 10. Henry Baker 1 Rake 25. Henry Miller 1 file 25 goggles 20. George Stump 2 hats 1 pair suspenders Axle grease.

Farm - Samuel Kerst leather husker 25. David Baker Husking peg 10 gingham 50 thread 5 sack eggs 10. H.L. Parent 1 grain cradle 400. George D. Miller Corn Planter 350. Uris Davis milk strainer 24. Samuel Kerst Scythe & Snyth 150 (snath-curved handle of scythe). John Crumrine hay fork 70. Isaac Kerst 13 lb. Fence wire 65.

Horse - John Oda horse blanket 100 tobacco 25. John Crumrine 8 Buggy Washers 16. Esra Minich whip 100 Hat 100 Robe 300 gum boots 375 socks 25. W.U. Baker 1 horse blanket 90. Henry Miller 1 Horse Yoke 50. Jacob Brumbaugh Horse muzzle 15.

Paints - W.H. Baker Tube Paints 40, Turpentine 30. Jonathan Wagner sand paper 20. Jacob Brumbaugh varnish 12. W.H. Baker 1 box paint 50 Tube paint 10 Turpentine 75. Henry Miller muslin 20 buttons 25 glue 5 wax 5. Evan Kerst Broom 25 sugar 50 glycerine 15. Henry Stingley ½ gal. linseed oil 30. Ad Steinmetz 3 yd. crinlin 25 muslin 12 cheese 18 tobacco 15 varnish 25.

Daily Supplies - Henry Baker Carbolic Acid 10 Gum 2 (C.A. used as antiseptic, disinfectant). Noah Baker oil 20 Clothes pins 10. Ad Steinmetz crackers 25 stove polish 10 Almanac 5. Noah Baker Porous Plaster 25 Crackers 10 Broom 30. Henry Miller 2 gal. oil 40 safety pins and buttons 15. Elisabeth Lindamood Bed Cord 45. Benjamin Wagner Paper envelopes 20 ink 5 pens and c. 3. David Baker overshoes 140 Chamber 50 Flannel 10 thread 25 tacks 5. Robert Dalrymple pants 150 paper envelops 10 stamps 10 day books 10. John Oda Watch Key 25. Marsh Wilcox tobacco 55 Harp 50. Henderson Parent shoes 250 vailing 70 lye 20 Dishes 35 sacks 15. David Baker hominy 10 popgun 25 Golden Age 35. Jonathon Wagoner 1 bottle August Flower 70. Ad Steinmetz candy 20 pop gun 20 toys 15 tobacco 15. Dick Tice sandals 65 pen knife 75. Frank Strader Red Lead 40 coffee 16 crackers 10 sugar 25. George Edger sugar 50 coffee 45 copperas 10 (copperas used in dying and making ink). Henderson Albright a ball twine 20. Jacob Brumbaugh 1 looking glass 16 lb. salt. Al Garland sugar 50 coffee 20 starch 10 shoepolish 15. M.U. Warner 2 windows 1 door frame wire tacks 7 hinges 388 1 dish 75 2 handle 20. Ad Steinmetz salt 15 prunes 10 peaches 28, 40 lb. cement 40, shot 20 powder 10. William Hains umbarella 100. W.H. Baker lamp black 10 Borax 40. Jacob Brumbaugh thread 5 hooks and eyes 5 whale bone 10 (used in whips). John Hollinger oil 10 meal 25 hominy 15 starch 10 soda 5 Clothes Line 50. Robert Dalrymple 1 bottle Mucilage (mucilage - watery solution of gum, glue, etc. used as adhesive). Ben Wagoner postal cards 6.

Tampico

On April 18, 1850, John Wharry, surveyor of Darke County surveyed the plat for Tampico, located at the intersection of Route 36 and Hollansburg-Tampico Road. "...Lot No. 33 is dedicated for common school purposes for the use of the school district in which it lies as a site for a school house lot nos. 1, 2, 19, 20 are the property of James Harding Nos. 21, 22, 31, 32, and 33. are the property of James E. C. Woodmansee Nos. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30 are the property of Daniel L. Davis and Lots Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and part of Lot no. 18 belong to Asa Woodmansee and the residue of said Lot 18 belongs to Martin Rupe Jr. The beginning corner from which to make future Surveys is a Stone placed at the North East corner of Lot No. 21. and which bears S. 45° 20 W. from a stone set at the corner of the aforesaid half quarters where the corner together at the intersection of the centres of Main and Walnut Streets and distant from it 70½ Links."

"The town numbered 67 persons according to the 1875 census - 43 blacks and 24 whites. The town consisted of two saloon and two blacksmith shops among its chiefly residential plat. But trouble soon started. Tampico began getting the reputation as a 'rough town' and people became apprehensive about settling in the vicinity.

"A Christmas Eve incident at Tampico saloon sealed the town's fate. The afternoon before Christmas had been fairly quiet at the bar; however, as the day dwindled into the twilight hours, a drunken gunfight broke out and one man was killed. Another man was badly shot up and although he eventually pulled through, his life hung by a slim thread for weeks. Another man was severely beaten in the saloon brawl.

"Shortly after that, Tampico turned into a ghost town."
("The News-Gazette, Oct. 16, 1976)

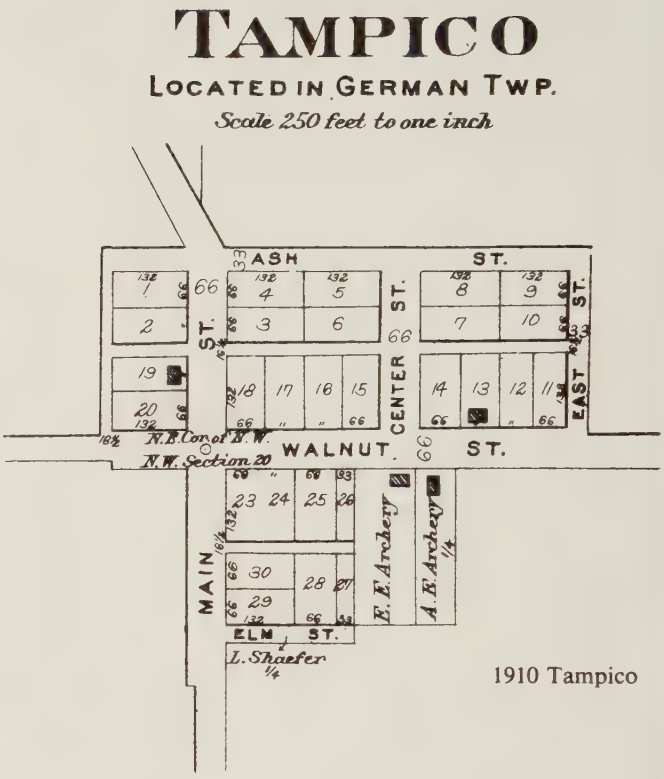
Lawrence Goen's father Albert married a Tampico woman about 1901, and Lawrence recalls the town as he visited there at that time with his father. There had been a saloon on the S.W. corner run by Levi Schaeffer before Lawrence's time. There were no businesses there in 1901, but Lawrence recalls Doc Archey and Arch Epps living east on 36, across the street were Albert Archey and Funk. Arch Epps later moved up on hill. Doc Wade was on the S.W. corner, and at that corner was a pump where all could drink. There were supposed to have been other buildings down by Doc Wade's at an earlier time according to hearsay.

William Jones recalls that Doc Wade had a store at Tampico around 1924. By 1947 there were only two or three old shells of former buildings left in the old village.

Tampico Murder

The most infamous event of Tampico occured December 24, 1881. A railroader, laid over out of Glen Karn, went to Tampico with a fellow railroader looking for liquor and trouble. He found both and ended up dead. Levi Shafer and Henry Sane were arrested by Sheriff Runkle and placed in the county jail. Marshall Woods of Palestine arrested Mart and John Clemens and put them in the Palestine jail. The "Greenville Democrat's" reporter gives the following description of the site of the murder. "Tampico is situated in this county, German township, about 13 miles west from this city and 3 miles from Palestine. There are only about a dozen houses in the town, and they are almost all hard looking places. The house where the terrible melee occurred is a story and a half shanty, with one door opening in front and a window or two, kept by Levi Shafer, a colored man, who is sixty-two years of age. A back room in the house is filled with corn and closed up. It is called a grocery, but above the door is a sign - 'Ale and Beer'."

The court proceedings give an interesting look at the town that was platted just thirty-one years earlier, and thus an early look at Tampico.



1910 Tampico

The Tampico Murder

Preliminary Examination on the
Charge of Murder of Charles
Harris, Before Justice of
the Peace, W.H. Dill,
Greenville, Ohio.

The State of Ohio, Plaintiff, Versus
Andrew M. Clemens, Et Al.,
Defendants.

January 25, 1882

"Dr. J.B. Tennell, called. — Dr., state your business and where you live? My business is that of a physician, and I live in German Township, Darke County, Ohio, at a place called Palestine. Well, state where you was last Sunday and what you heard with reference to a homicide in German township. At the request of the acting Coroner, Squire Shively, I went to the village of Tampico with the purpose of viewing the body of a man said to have been killed there. Myself and Dr. Sater jointly viewed the body and held a postmortem examination. We in the beginning divested the dead man of all his clothing and examined the body and limbs; the injury was confined to the head; there was a hole cut through the scalp down to the skull. I believe on the right side; it looked like it had been done with a stone, knuck, or some hard substance but did not effect the skull; there was a bruise under the left eye-a pretty bad bruise-but nothing serious about that; he had received a very, quite a considerable injury on the top of his head. After making an external examination we then removed a portion of the scalp, cutting across in the direction and removing the scalp, and also the muscles down the bone of the head. After removing the scalp and muscles we found he had received a blow just starting above the right ear and bursting the skull. There was a triangular fracture, perhaps an inch and a half long, in what we term the sackueous region or the temporal bone, which was bursted out and an indentation made there. The break in the skull continued, inclining forward through the temporal bone, here, reaching 5½ inches to the crown of the head, making a complete fracture of 5½ inches that was all loose and working. In our judgment, and beyond all doubt, that was the blow that caused the death of the man. From the appearances state what substances were used? It was our opinion that it had been a rather flat and hard substance; we didn't think it was a stone; it hadn't crushed it in the way one made with a stone or slung-shot would break the skin; and our impression is that it was done with something in the hand, a club or a stick, or something of that kind, and, having discovered near where we found him a piece of fence stake with blood and hair upon it, we arrived at the conclusion that that was the instrument used that produced death. What had been the wounds upon the head? They covered, perhaps, it appeared to up about two inches in a circular form; he appeared to be hit with something flat upon the top of the head; the blood had settled upon the bruises probably two or three inches around, but that was only a flesh wound. From the way received I think the one on the top of the head was the one that fell him to the ground, and with the other I think he was struck while he was down - that is the one that produced death. Just state the nature of these wounds? The one I say was the worst was the one that occurred on the right side of his head, which burst in the temporal bone and produced a fracture extending an inch and a half in length and also of a triangular form; the temporal bone was bursted in. I would think that in every case in an injury of that kind the result would be death. Where did you find that gentleman? He was lying when I went there in a little saloon out there said to be owned by L. Shaeffer, lying on the floor with something under his head and with a paper on him, and with his feet towards the door. There was something under his head, and quite an amount of hemorrhage from his

mouth and nostrils and from the ears. Did you know the gentleman or learn what his name was? It was said his name was Charles Harris. State his age about? As to his age, he was I would conjecture between 25 and 30 years old, not very far from 28. When we first commenced viewing him his clothes muddy and black, and you couldn't tell whether he was a white man or colored. We got water and washed him off; I would think his age was 28. Where did you find him — in what county and state? He was in the county of Darke and State of Ohio. If there was anything new developed there touching the homicide you may state it. Not that I now call to mind; I have stated about all. You may state who invited you up to the homicide — who asked you to go up? I received the intelligence left with my family by Squire Shively. Did you have any conversation there touching this homicide with these defendants? No, sir, I did not.

"Cross Examined. — I wish you would state how long after you learned of the deceased party you were called there? That I could not tell only by comparison; I was called not far from twelve o'clock Sunday, December 25th. Dr. Sater assisted you? Yes, sir. How long were you there? I suppose we was there perhaps an hour and a half I would think. You found the dead body in the saloon of Shaeffer? Yes, sir. You didn't state what nationality you thought he belonged to? Well, I didn't; I stated why; my impression is that he was an American born. You didn't know him in lifetime? No, I never seen him in life. Was he a large man? Yes, sir; and above the medium height. Was he well built? Yes, sir. Was he a powerful muscular man? He was indeed. Somewheres between 25 and 30? About 28. You discovered no disease in his system. I never looked. I supposed this place where wounded was fatal. There was nothing that indicated anything but good health except this blow. You didn't know what this man's condition was as to being sober or drunk? No, I did not. No examination of his stomach was made, was there? No, sir.

"J.W. Shively examined. — State where you reside? In German township, Darke county, Ohio. What position do you hold up there? I act as Justice of the Peace up there. You may state whether or not you held an inquest over the body of a dead person? I did sir. When was that? On the 25th day of this month, Christmas. You may state whether or not these defendants were examined before you? Yes, sir, the was. And made statements? Yes sir; and signed them. Did they sign them in your presence? Yes, sir. We introduce the report of the Coroner to show that a crime was committed, and also to show that the defendants made statements over their own signatures. Is that the instrument? Yes, sir. This was taken by you in your presence? Yes, sir. They were not under arrest? No sir. And read over to them before signing? Yes, sir. Court may read it.

> Andrew M. Clemens, John C. Clemens, and Henry Sain, being sworn, states that on the evening of December 24, 1881, near eight o'clock, P.M., were all in the saloon of Levi Shaeffer, and a crowd of men come up to the door, and from their boisterousness and talk supposed they were intoxicated, and they tried to get in, the door being locked. They commenced quarreling among themselves; heard violent language, such as, shoot the s__ of a b____, kill him, and c.; heard violent blows. When the crowd left we all went out, and seen a man lying on the ground about six feet from the saloon door.
>
> (Signed) Andrew M. Clemens.
> John Clemens.
> Henry Sane.

"How did they come to sign this? I just asked them if they wouldn't go in and be sworn, and they said they would. Were there any threats or promises made? No, sir, no threats or suspicions. State whether they were threatened to be arrested? They was not. Where did you first see the dead man? I first saw him lying in Shaeffer's grocery. When was that? In the neighborhood of twelve o'clock. Where was he found? In Darke County, Ohio.

"Cross Examined. — That was signed by them at whose request? At my request, to sign their statement. You were holding the examination? Yes, sir. Were you holding the post-mortem examination at the grocery? No, sir; at Mr. Smith's where we could have some fire. When was this statement signed? It would be about two o'clock on Christmas.

"Jerry Runkle. — You may state whether or not you had any conversation with Mr. Clemens and where it was touching this homicide, and state whether any threats or any promises were made or any inducements were held out to get him to make the statement? No, sir. Was he under arrest? No, sir. Was there any talk of an arrest? No, sir. State where it was and when? Well, I took him out to one side to talk to him in regard to the matter. In the first place we asked him whether he knew anything about it. He said he was in the house when it was done, and claimed he did not know who did it; he said he was on the inside and heard a little racket on the outside, like striking, as though mules were kicking at something; he could hear them off at a distance. What did he say about how he got in this saloon? I believe he went to the back door; first likely he knocked at the front door and then went around to the rear door and gave the Mason's sign, and Shaeffer let him in. State when he said he went in there? I think he said about eight o'clock; I believe he said he was in quite a while, he claimed he heard some loud talk outside; that he heard some men striking out there as though mules were kicking; he claimed that Shaeffer went to the door and ordered them to keep quiet, and he said they complied at the time that Shaeffer told them to keep quiet. What did he state about the door being locked? He said the door was locked when he first went there. He said, I think, that it was not locked, but was bolted on the inside. What did he say about starting away? He said he went out and went to a festival, and he saw a man lying four or five feet from the door, and they went to a festival about three miles over to Indiana, to a church there. State what he said when he went past this man? He said he thought maybe the man was drunk, and he didn't pay any attention to him. State what he said about the door being closed? He said the door was locked at the time he went there.

"Cross examined. — He said the man was lying there outside of the saloon? Yes, sir. Did he state where the men went after it was over? Well, I think they went up North. Who was talking to them? I was talking to Clemens. Who did he say was in the house at the time? He said he and John Clemens and this other young man and Shaeffer. He said these three persons was in the house at the time the striking was done out of doors? Yes, sir. and when they came out the man was lying down outside the door and not far from it?

Yes. He supposed he was drunk? Yes, sir. And he said there was another man lying at one side; that was all that was said about him? Yes, sir. I ask you if he didn't request his uncle to close the door, that they might kill all of them? I don't recollect of it.

"Abraham Shumake examined. — Where do you live? At Tampico. Where is that? It is out in Darke county, a little west of Palestine. State where you was last Saturday night or evening? I was at home. My home is north-east of the saloon; I can see it from my house. I heard a great deal of fuss and a great many licks there on Saturday night. Part of them was South of the grocery, and part of them was right at the grocery. I don't know which licks took place last. I could see the parties about there. I could see them as they were passing in and out of the door. The door was sometimes open and sometimes shut. The room was lit up, and I saw them going in and out of there. One man was apparently a tolerably small man, and the other was a middling tall man. I heard blows. I heard them distinctly. After the knocking was over, I heard one man say: "Uncle Lee, I told you I could get away with him!" I did not see the person when he made the exclamation, and did not know who it was. I thought I knew his voice. I was about one hundred yards away; the moon was shining, and it was about eight o'clock. I heard some other words, but don't recollect now just exactly what they were. I did not see any one start away. I heard someone calling; I heard some man say: 'Where are you going, Henry Sain? Come right back here.' There was some man standing between me and the grocery where they were, and he said to him to come here; to come quickly. I did not find out that anybody was killed until nearly 11 o'clock, when Mr. Smith told me. I seen Mr. Shaeffer between 11 and 12 o'clock, and he also told me of the homicide. I could only tell the color of the clothing the boys had on through the darkness; it was a little like a brownish color of clothes. It was on Sunday morning when I first saw the dead man. The door was open pretty much of the time about the last knocking. I could see persons close together at the knocking. I saw someone come to the door, and heard him say, "That will do." I took it to be Mr. Shaeffer, from his voice. You didn't go up that night? Yes, sir. Who was standing with you at your house? My people.

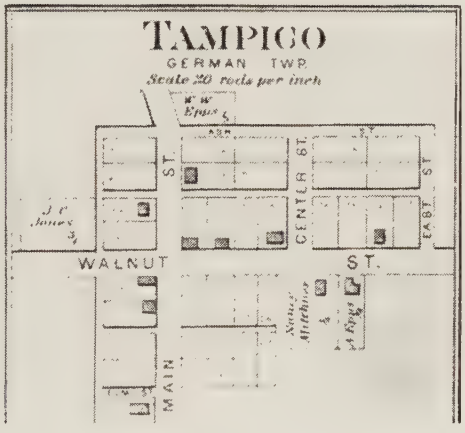
"Cross-examination. — This is all you heard or seen? Yes. You don't know who killed the man? No, sir. You didn't see him fall? No, sir. Was there any licks struck? I saw some man's hand striking, but don't know what it hit. What time in the night did you see the door open? Near about 8 o'clock. Was it before 8 or after 8 o'clock? It was about 8. Now how far was you from the grocery? About 100 yards I think. Was there considerable excitement that night? Yes sir, there was. You don't pretend to say you heard everything said by them that night? No sir. You don't pretend to say who they were? I think I could distinctly know the voice of the one who said quit. You heard Mr. Shaeffer say quit? Yes, sir. Did he come to the door and say quit, that he wouldn't have it here? I think he said that will do, that is enough. You can't recollect all what was said; you was too badly scared? No, I was not; I was too far off to be badly scared.

"Pierce M.B. Thompson examined. — I was at the A.M.E. Church, in Randolph County, Ind., 3½ miles northwest from Tampico, last Saturday night; a festival and Christmas tree was going on there; I saw there defendants, Andrew Clemens, Martin Clemens, John Clemens, and Henry Sain, and several others. I shook hands with Clemens when he came in, as I generally do when we meet. In shaking hands I discovered a little blood, but I never asked what caused. He didn't say anything to me on the subject. Pretty soon Martin came around, and John and him stepped off to the corner, when Martin said, "We will know something about this in the morning," but what it was about I am not able to say. I saw blood on his hands; he said he had been to Tampico before they came there that night. Nothing was said any more to me. Their conduct there bad enough; they raised a 'Ned'; from the way the boys acted they were under the influence of liquor; it was a tolerably late hour when they got there; I got home about 12 o'clock. How long before you got home did they come there, if you got home about 12 o'clock? It must certainly have been an hour and a half until this thing broke up; it might have been between half past ten and eleven o'clock. How far was that from Tampico? I don't know; about three miles and a half, I suppose. How did they come? They was in the house when I saw them. You don't know how they came over? I saw Mr. Clemens ride off. You had heard of no killing? I never heard of any at that time.

"Anna Shumake examined. — Give your full name? Sidney Ann Shumake. State where you live? In Tampico. State where you were last Saturday night? I was at home all evening or night? Yes, sir. Do you know of any difficult taking place that night? Yes, there was some took place. When did the difficulty take place, about what hour? About 7 o'clock I think. How long was it until the next difficulty took place? Well, I heard them beat a man. What did you see up that way, where was the beating? It was there by the grocery. Did you see anybody up there? Yes, sir. Could you see them; was it light enough to see them? Yes, sir. By what light could you see them? By moon-light and lamp-light. Where was the lamp-light? It was in the grocery. How did the light come out of the grocery? It shone out of the door. You heard blows struck on somebody? Yes, sir. Did you see anyone in the saloon? Yes sir, I saw somebody. After the blows took place what next did you see? After the beating do you mean? Yes. Why I saw someone come out of the grocery and stand in the grocery door, and another came by him and stepped down on the steps. Then what next took place, what did you hear said? I heard someone say 'damn him - kick him off the steps'. After the beating what did you hear said? I heard somebody say that will do now. What next did you hear? I heard somebody say I am the damned best man in town. What size man was that? That said that word? Yes. He was a tolerable tall like man. What else did you hear said? Come back Henry Sain. Did you hear anybody else's name called? No, sir. You saw two young men come out of the door, what size were they? One was tolerable tall, and the other was lower than the other. What color of clothes? One had on a pale like suit. Had you ever heard that voice before that you heard that night - what kind of a voice was it? It was a coarse like voice. Had you every heard that voice before? Yes, sir. Whose voice was it? I can't say that. Was there any question asked or anything said to Mr. Shaeffer about courage? Some one of the men said 'I told you Uncle I could get away with him.'

"Cross-examination. — Where do you live? In Tampico. You have stated all you saw and heard that night? Yes sir.

1888 Tampico



1875 Tampico

You don't know who was talking? I can't call no names. What time was that? It begun about 7 o'clock. Did you know at that time that Shaeffer was himself beat up and badly bruised? No sir. You say some had light clothes on and some had dark? Yes sir. Who came to the door and told them to be quiet? Levi Shaeffer.

"Re-direct examination. — Was the door open? Yes, sir. He was in the door, and came from the inside of it? Yes sir. And you heard no more licks after he said that? No sir.

"Mary Shumake, examined. — I live about 100 yards off, I reckon, in Tampico, Darke County, Ohio; on last Saturday night I was in the State of Ohio, in Tampico; I know of nothing but knocking that night; I heard something like licks where the grocery was, and I heard Shaeffer holler and tell them to stop, and then I heard a shot — then they began to knock one another, somewhere about the grocery; we all jumped up and run to the doors; it stopped then. That was after 7 o'clock; it was still for awhile, until 8 o'clock, then I heard the last knocking; I was standing in the doorway then, and I heard Shaeffer say — stop now, that will do; I heard some man say that will do, now you quit, and then I heard some man say 'come back, Henry Sain.' Heard nothing before that: I live kind of east from Shaeffer's saloon, and could see up there; I stood in my door, and towards the saloon I could see them going backwards and forwards into the grocery; I didn't know none of them, I heard them and that's all. There was a light in the saloon, somebody was over there, and the grocery door was open. After the pounding I heard a man say what a great man I am — see what I can do; that's about all only I heard a man say 'come back here, Henry Sain'; nobody came back that I know of, I can't say. Did you know any of these voices? Only Mr. Shaeffer's words, 'stop that, that will do now.' I heard some man say 'kick him off the steps,' and Mr. Shaeffer says 'let him alone, that will do.' It was about 18 minutes after 11 o'clock when I first learned of that death; I seen the dead man Sunday morning about 9 or 10 o'clock. I did not notice the color of the clothing up there; I saw what took place in the first and last difficulty; several there then, but at the last time there were only four or five there; that was all I seen and heard. Did you stand out there all the time? Part of the time the door was shut.

"Cross-examination. — I have told and seen all that I heard; yes sir, I did see somebody strike, and heard Mr. Shaeffer say 'stop, that's enough, quit,' but didn't see any striking after that; he came to the door. Didn't he say he didn't want any more racket that night? He didn't say that, he says 'that will do now.'

"J.C. Revers, examined. — I live in Ohio, with Andy Jones; I was over at the African Church, in Indiana. I saw Summer Durant, John Clemens, and Martin Clemens there; when they came in I was standing at the stove, and I shook hands with all three of them; I shook hands with John Clemens the last, and when going to shake hands I noticed blood on his hand and then I turned the hand over and there was blood there. I asked him how he got that blood on him, and he said he fell down and hurt himself; he said they had cleaned up Tampico, and had come over to clean up the African church. I noticed his hand, and there was blood on it; he said he had fell down and hurt himself; I did not talk to the other boys; Summer Durant had mud on his clothes. I don't recollect what time they left, or where they went. Tampico is a little over two miles from the church. That is all the conversation I had with them.

"Cross-examination. — About half-past 10 o'clock Summer Durrant, John Clemens and Martin Clemens came to the church; John had blood on his hands, and said he had fell down and hurt himself, and said they had cleaned out Tampico, and had come up to clean out the African church. That was all that was said about that. There was no fighting done, but there was a fuss before they all left. The boys acted like they had been drinking some, or was putting it on. The fussing was done at a festival, and not at church.

"William H. Smith, examined. — Where do you live? I live in Tampico. You know something of the homicide or murder; do you know of anyone being injured in that way? Yes sir. State where you first saw the man: When I first saw him he was lying out about six feet from the door. What time in the evening was that? By my time it was about 8 o'clock, but I learned it was half an hour fast. In what County and State was that? Why, in Darke County, Ohio. Just state all you know about the matter. He was apparently entirely helpless, and looked like he was in a pretty bad con-

dition, lying in the mud. What took place after you carried him in there? I helped to bathe his head with whisky, and he still remained helpless; he never spoke at all and died. When did he die? About half after 10 by my time. Did you see any other parties? Mr. Shaeffer was there; there was another person that was pretty badly bruised — some of the time he was lying down, and some of the time he was sitting up. Do you know where he went? He started before day, and said he was going home. And the man died about half an hour after you came there? Yes sir. Who was there? I was. Who else? Mr. Shaeffer. How long did he stay there? Until the latter part of the night. Where did he go? He went home. What did you hear Shaeffer say after you went up there? He made mention, or I did, I wouldn't be positive which it was — it was mentioned it wouldn't do for him to lay there; he should be taken in and taken care of. And then you carried him in? Yes sir. What was the man's name? Charley Harris. That is the man that got killed. Yes sir; the other one called him Charley; I understand a young man from where he worked that his name was Charley Harris.

Cross-examination — You live in Tampico? Yes sir. Where was you when you heard Shaeffer's voice, what did you hear, did you hear people talking, when was it that you heard any talking there — did Shaeffer speak to you? Yes sir. Where was he? In the grocery he was standing outside when I first came up. Was that before this man was hurt or afterwards? Yes sir. I ask you if Mr. Shaeffer was not badly hurt himself? Yes sir, I considered him so. Who else helped to carry him in besides Mr. Shaeffer? Nobody. How did he catch hold; did he catch hold of his feet? I catched hold of his thigh. And Shaeffer under his shoulders? Yes sir. And you and he carried him into the grocery? Yes sir. And you stayed until he died? Yes sir. You don't know who killed him? No sir. Mr. Shaeffer was himself badly hurt? You carried him in at Mr. Shaeffer's request? Yes sir, I believe it was.

"And thereupon the State offered evidence the statements of Levi Shaeffer, one of the defendants. Made before the Coroner's inquest, to-wit: Levi Shaeffer, being duly sworn, states that on the night of the 24th of December, about 4 o'clock p.m., 1881, the deceased came to my grocery in Tampico with two other men, all supposed to be men working on the I.B. & W. railroad. He bought during the evening one pint of whisky; during the evening some 8 or 10 persons came here from the shooting or raffling match, which was held about one-half mile west of Tampico and remained here until near 8 o'clock, when there was some quarreling in the crowd. I, with Andrew M. Clemens, John Clemens and Henry Sain, were in my grocery, the door being shut. I heard the fuss. I went to the door and ordered peace, when four or five persons walked away north. Clemens and Sain walked out; we seen the deceased lying on the ground, about six feet from the door, unconsious. William Smith, a neighbor coming up, we picked him up and carried him in the grocery; he was still living, but moaning and breathing heavily; he lived until about half past 10 o'clock — Levi Shaeffer.

"Lee Vick, examined. — State your name? Jesse L. Vick, commonly called Lee? Yes sir. Where do you live when at home? I live in Randolph County. State where you were on last Saturday night? We came across the line to a shooting match, near Tampico; from the shooting match we went to Lee Shaeffer's grocery, as it is called. What time did you go there? In the neighborhood of 4 o'clock. What time did you stay there? Until it was getting dusk. State whether or not you saw these parties there? Yes sir. How many of them? I saw all of them there during the evening. You may state what took place there during the evening — did you see any difficulty? Yes sir. State what you know about it? First and foremost some of our neighbor boys were there and just started away; there was one fellow with the party by the name of Levi Overman, who was unnecessarily drunk, and I went to help to put him on his horse; and when I put him on he got off his horse and wouldn't get on again to go home; one of the neighbor boys called to me to help him get him on; while doing it he struck me and I settled him and put him on his horse and started him off, and I went back up into the party. When we had come up to the party they got noisy and boisterous, Shaeffer had shut up the saloon and it begun out in the street; I come back up; I believe a man by the name of Durant was there — he drawed a pop and struck my brother; then I struck at him and popped it to him, and then Shaeffer strikes at me and catches me by the throat collar and draws his revolver out; I whirled around and struck him a couple of times and held on to him; he shot twice, and I hallowed to my brother for help; he had struck my nose, and just then this big rail roader that was killed run up and strikes Shaeffer and knocks him down before Tob got there, and then we ran; then it was just getting dusk. What did you do after the difficulty with Shaeffer before the house? I ran to the stable; Henry Sain had taken my brother's mare and put her in the stable; I was running towards him, and Tob ran up and got the mare; I got on, and my brother got on behind, and we lit out. How many were there at the time? I can't tell. How many were there at the time, about how many? There were several of them. What did the others do at the time you left? They rushed up to where Shaeffer was, and this man was on top of him, and jumping on him and commenced striking him. And you went away? Yes sir, over there to Spartansburg. You saw these parties there? Yes sir, they were there during this racket.

"Cross-examination. — When you saw Shaeffer and this other man, he had Shaeffer down? Yes sir. That's the last I saw of him; it was in the evening about dusk; I could distinguish one man from another at that distance; I struck Shaeffer before that, but he had struck me first, and then I struck him, and the Harris struck Shaeffer; the last I saw of Harris he was on Shaeffer. You are now under arrest yourself for this fight? I don't know whether I am or not; I was arrested in Indiana; there was no charge presented to me, and they told me that Shaeffer had a warrent sworn out charging me with assault and battery with intent to kill; the Marshal of Winchester brought me here from Indiana. Where did you deliver yourself to the Sheriff? They told me they wanted me as a witness, I was under no obligations to go. Still you are in jail? Yes, but I am not at the present time. They didn't tell me Shaeffer had me put in jail, they said Shaeffer swore out a warrant; after I saw Harris on top of Shaeffer I got out of the way as soon as I could; I went on horseback as soon as I could get my horse, and was not arrested Saturday evening. I was not there when Harris was killed and I do not know who killed him. And thereupon the counsel for the defendants made a motion in discharge the prisoners which motion was overruled by the court.

"William Smith examined. — I live in Tampico. I was in

Tampico on the 24th at this trouble. You can tell where you saw Mr. Shaeffer, what doing, and the circumstances, if you know where he was? Well, in the first place I started to go down to his house, I went down part of the way and saw these boys hunting for him in the ditch and they said he was not down there. I supposed they was mistaken they went on hunting and I went to his house but he was not there. Then I went after them and met them and came up to the grocery and they got to the grocery before I was in. He was with Martin Clemens, John Clemens and Henry Sain. There was in there Martin, John, Levi Shaeffer and Henry Sain? Yes, sir. What condition was Mr. Shaeffer in? He was in a rather bad condition, his face was all cut up and bruised up and bleeding, and I could see blood running down from his bloody forehead, and his eye looked like it was pretty rough. Was the door open or locked? It was not locked, it was shoved to; a little light shone out at the time. You then went in? Yes I went in there. He was standing and bending over, and John Clemens was washing his head with whisky. Mart was standing close by. How long was this as near as you can tell before the killing of the other party took place? Well it must have been some fifteen or twenty minutes. Now go on and state what you heard, if anything, of striking or hollowing that night after this, and if so, where you was at that time.

"The first noise and fuss I heard was as I came out of the grocery to feed my horse; that was after he was hurt I found him in that condition. There appeared to be a good many men there, and some were just north of his grocery, behind the old blacksmith shop cussing and calling one another damn liars. I went in the middle of the road, for I thought it was no place for me. I heard nothing after that cussing and calling each other liars, until I got in the stable I thought I heard a lick or two. I gave the horses their feed, and went to the door, when Mr. Shaeffer hollowed to them, 'that he was not going to have this here', and bid them to stop; says he, 'I will not have it.' I couldn't see any person but him; the knocking appeared to be near the grocery. After Shaeffer commanded them to stop he stuck his head out of the window, as I knew him by his voice. I was not acquainted with the man that was killed; he was a tolerable large man, and looked like he was about 25 or 30 years old. Mr. Shaeffer seemed like he suffered a great deal; John Clemens washed him, and not Henry Sain. I understand he was in jail. I don't think I saw them go out of the saloon, as it was 10 or 15 minutes after I heard Shaeffer call. It was when I went up to the grocery some ten or fifteen minutes after that I learned that there was a man hurt, and I told the boys; there was another man they called Friday a little further north on some logs; I learned afterwards that he was at Mr. Tilts; he stayed until near six o'clock in the morning, and I stayed until the man died, and he never spoke; I don't know him, and don't know who hit him; I ain't certain who spoke about taking him in, but I said, 'let the man be drunk or sober, it is wrong to let him lay in the mud.' He said he didn't feel like lifting, but 'I will do all I can.' He managed to get under him and Mr. Shaeffer and I lifted him in, and Mr. Shaeffer bathed his face and head with liquor. I spoke to him, but received no answer from him, I then ascertained he was hurt because he was bleeding at the ear. He was lying down and the other man was sitting up, and seemed to have some cuts on his head. I asked the other man to help us carry him in, but he put his hand up to his head when we asked him anything. I didn't see any weapons of any kind; it was all quiet until Shaeffer stuck his head out of the window and hollowed. It was also quiet in the house. I was not there at the time they carried him in, and didn't know there was any striking done until after he was in the house. I thought I heard some striking when I was in the stable and came out in about 15 minutes and saw this at the door. I was not close by when the first fight took place. Mr. Shaeffer was a peaceable man as far as I know him, as I worked for him in case of necessity.

"Cross-examination. — It was about 7 o'clock when I left my house, and went over at the grocery, which is just opposite, and these four men I told about was there doing nothing, only Clemens was helping Shaeffer wash his head. I was at home when the first fight took place and did not see any of it, but heard loud swearing and didn't remain long, but got his key to the stable and put up his buggy and came to the front of the house, which is on one corner, and his stable where he keeps his horse in on the other corner. I live on the northeast corner and his stable in on the southeast corner on the pike. I got corn and fed the horse in the stable, which suppose is 100 yards from the grocery on the same road, southeast of the saloon. I can't say how many were there, as I only saw four boys when I put up the buggy in the stable, which is about 25 or 30 yards from the saloon; when I got the key and fed his horse I heard the striking. The reason I done the feeding was because I was down at the house and the other two helped to wash his head. I was at the shed long enough to unlock the doors, and then went down to the stable and was there 10 or 15 minutes, as I didn't hurry myself any, and then went back to the saloon and Mr. Shaeffer and the two men that was killed and injured was there and nobody else; I didn't see the other boys, but when I was at the stable I heard a noise like they were going toward the saloon. I did not see any men when I passed the old shop to put up the buggy, and didn't say there was no one there but these boys, nor did not hear anybody. You and Mr. Shaeffer are good friends, are you not? We are good neighbors. What did Shaeffer say when you first went back there? I don't remember exactly, but think he said a man was drunk or hurt; it was 10 or 15 minutes when I left the saloon to feed the horse before I returned, when in the meantime there had been fighting, when I found one man down and the other sitting up. Shaeffer said he thought they were very drunk or hurt. The others were all gone, so I stayed all night and didn't say anything during the night. Martin Clemens and John Clemens came there about midnight; I supposed it was Shaeffer coming back from the house. Henry Sain and one of the Durant boys also came and stayed until morning. There was nothing said about the difficulty, only it was a bad piece of business; there was nothing said about the fight or murder in the saloon that night by any person only Shaeffer that I recollect of. They might of talked about how it happened, and took him to be a drunken man. They didn't pay much attention what took place. Mrs. Shaeffer was at home that night, and didn't stay there but a few minutes. Mr. Shaeffer stayed up until sometime during the latter part of the night and then went home and laid down. I don't recollect of hearing any one come down from the house that night because I wasn't watching very close, as I didn't think it was a matter of much importance. I don't know what time it was when Andrew or

John Clemens or Henry Sain left the house, as I was down at the stable and was done about ten or fifteen minutes; I heard men around the corner, about fifteen or twenty steps from Shaeffer's saloon, cursing and swearing, and coming toward the grocery.

"Levi Shaeffer, examined. — I am one of the defendants. I don't know just how long I have lived in the county, would be running out and in there; I lived in Shelby county awhile, and I have been out in this county ever since, except when passing backwards and forwards out, until I settled down in Tampico, about fourteen years; if I live to see 1881 out, to next April, I will be sixty-two years old. I ask you to state how you were hurt that night? Let me commence at the first part, so I give the history of it. In the first place, about dark, it was getting good dusk, after it was dusk I reckon, six or seven o'clock, in the neighborhood of that, there was fuss. I had shut up to go home. There was a fuss commenced down below my house, I hurried down there. I had always been good in heading off fusses, and I have had pretty good luck in getting away without much hardness. I started to go down that way and this Vick that sat on this chair. Mr. Vick and Mr. Overman were in a racket, Vick had Overman down and was mauling him. I succeeded the best I could and got Vick off of him, and starts and goes right up towards the grocery again, and there commenced another fuss up here; I heard that and tried to stop it; I think it was Martin Clemens fussing with some one. There was a big crowd standing there when I got up about to the hind part of it, and the fussing still went on. I don't know who was there I can't say, and when I got in the crowd there was a revolver fired by some person, and from that this fellow's brother, Tob Vick, comes right around, and as he comes around he strikes me right there on the forehead; I didn't know who it was, and the first thing he dips me again, and then I grabbed him with the intention of keeping him from hurting me any more; he was striking me with a poke that had something in it; I thought I could defend myself in that way, and he struck me again on the arm. About that time this one that sat on this chair came running and struck me on the top with another slungshot or sack of that kind, and in this way they knocked me down four times. Says I, 'I have got nothing against you, what are you beating me for.' It was Vick that struck me instead of Charles Harris, it was Vick that knocked me down four times, him and his brother, so it was. After I got up, Tob snapped a revolver at me three times, but I got away from him and went into the grocery. Did you shoot at anybody? No sir. When he knocked me down, he says, 'give me your revolver,' and, says I, 'I have not got none,' and they whacked me again. After that I went up to the grocery the best I knowed how; they knocked me once on the flat of my face, and my face was muddy and my head bleeding as I went in the grocery. I sat down on the wood pile first, says I, I will let my head hang down. I sat down on a board, and fall on that, and sitting there I finally got sick, then went behind the counter and took some cloth and turned to wiping off my face, and then turned to pouring whiskey on my head and rubbed it. Directly these boys come and they got in. He says, 'you are badly hurt, what's it about,' and says I, I am. What boys were they? John Clemens, Martin Clemens and Henry Sain. These are the ones; they stayed in a little bit, and the first thing I knowed I heard some fuss again, but I still washed on, kept washing, yet I couldn't see; finally, though, I went to the door and said "stop this, I have stood this long enough," I don't know whether it was shut or not, as I was wiping the whiskey and mud and blood out of my eyes, and I hollowed 'quit that, I tell you boys I don't want such a thing about me.' That the words — quit — and with that these boys walked out. And when I hollowed quit I was blind and couldn't see so far as the door, but somehow I got to the door, and when I got to the door I took my fingers so and wiped the blood out and whisky together, and then it appeared that I could discover four or five coats moving. I could tell there was more than two by the walk, so I wiped again, and then went into the house again. How soon did you see these men out there? I discovered there was some one lying there, and I heard another one a little farther north, but didn't know who they were, no way, shape or form; I didn't know who was making the fuss, no. How long was that before Smith came back? As he says, it must have been ten or fifteen minutes; I was standing in the grocery. Did you speak about this man first, about that man lying there? I think I did, I ain't sure. He was carried into the house about right away, as quick as Mr. Smith come, he and I packed him in. I was weak, but I said 'we will do what we can for the man that is lying out there.' I didn't know at that time the man was hurt, or what man it was, don't know what licks, or who done anything, nor who struck now who did it, that's true. After we carried him in I think Mr. Smith spoke about the man's head being hurt, I was still washing the blood out of my eyes. Did you know the other man? I don't know whether he was sitting up or lying down; he was sitting in the house, and came in himself, but can't tell how long he stayed there; he was an ordinary sized man, do not know what become of him, nothing more that hearsay. These men came there, and they were gentlemen so far as I know, never seen them till 4 or 5 o'clock in the evening. No treating, they got a pint of whisky off me, two half pint bottles. Had there been any quarreling? Not a word, no. You say you heard some noise, could you have pointed out the direction? Yes sir — before my door, apparently right before my door. I first heard before my door, and then it moved up a little north, perhaps some ten to fifteen feet. Where did the noise appear to be when you first stuck your head out of the door and commanded peace? North ten or fifteen feet. That the place where Smith says the noise was? Not where the fussing was, heard the noise particulary as I started up, just outside of the door. They came up closer to the house? No, that is where the noise first commenced, apparently. And this is the first place you heard it? No, don't know, still washed on, and then when the noise got farther away I said I will try to stop that, and got around the counter, the noise was out of doors, to command peace, yes sir. How did these boys get into the house? They came there in search of me. There was something said about it, don't know, hardly know what I was doing; had no fuss with these men, none in the world. Do you know who hurt the man? Never heard a lick or blow, any way, shape or form, didn't strike him, and don't know who did. Instead of striking you it was the other fellow? He is not the man that struck me. State whether you have not filed an affidavit and had him arrested? Yes sir. Who drew that for you? The Prosecutor; the very man that said Charley Harris struck me is the very man that done it himself; he says I shot, yes, and there was only one shot in the town that evening. You didn't have any revolver? No sir, it was in the grocery. One of the witnesses claimed some one said to you 'Uncle Levi, I got away with

him!' did you hear anybody make such a declaration to you? No sir. Did either of the boys claim they fixed anybody? Didn't see or hear them at all.

"Cross-examination. — Mr. Shaeffer you were scared and afraid of that crowd? No sir, I was hurt and went and locked myself up to keep safe until I could wash. Did you lock the door to keep the boys out that was quarreling? I locked up to keep everybody out, because they were still fussing, and I said 'if you will fight, why fight on, I will attend to my business.' You stated you had the door locked; was it because you was afraid of the crowd? Yes sir, I didn't want anybody in. And while locked the pounding was going on you say? Yes sir. Then you put your head out to tell them to quit? No, I was behind the counter bathing my head, and just wiped my eyes when the fuss quieted about the grocery and moved on ten or fifteen feet, I heard them out there and I thought I would go out and demand peace again, so I came around the corner and stuck my head out and hollered peace. And then the boys went out? Yes sir, and that quieted them. The boys were not much afraid then? I can't tell you about that; that's the straight of it with me. What time did the boys come to your house the last time? I don't know, as I believe I was down home having my head dressed. I mean in the evening before they concluded to go to church? It must have been 6 o'clock; they said they were going on to church. Where did they come in at in your house? At the front door, there is only one to come in at, as the other is filled up with corn. Did you let them in when they knocked? Yes sir, after they told me who they were; then I went back and bathed my head again. They only got in the front door? That is the only way they could. Nobody else about that I seen. How long were they in before the last difficulty commenced? Don't think more than ten minutes. Were they in when Mr. Smith came to put up your carriage? Yes sir, and when he came back I think they were done. Didn't have any trouble with the railroad men. Where was this man that was not killed when you came out? About ten or fifteen feet north, I suppose where the last pounding took place; don't know who was out there, not nothing about it; can't tell what Mr. Smith said when he first came up there, nor don't know when the boys went out; nor whether they said anything or not when they came back at midnight, because there was not much talking with me no way; between 3 and 4 o'clock I told them if they would stay sometime I would go home and lay down, and get my head dressed and washed. When did you first lock your saloon? Well, I reckon about 6 o'clock, and up to that time I hadn't seen the boys at all; don't know whether I seen them during the evening or not.

"Re-direct. — At the time you called to them to stop, state whether you heard any more noise after you hollored to them? Yes sir, I thought I could discover a shadow of some person going away, I couldn't tell for my eyes was full of blood and whisky it appeared so by the shadow. These other boys were in the house were they? Yes sir, it appeared there were four or five walking away. Mr. Shaeffer, while the trouble was going on the last time before the man was injured did you hear any noise outside? Yes, I heard pounding. Did you hear anything else? Nothing only pounding. Mr. Shaeffer, state whether there was any loud talk? No sir. Didn't you hear any loud noise like horses were kicking? No sir, I was still behind the counter bathing my head with whisky. After these boys went away you heard nothing? No sir. They came back afterwards? Yes sir, after the church was out. After you commanded peace you heard no more fighting? No. You think you saw some persons going away? Yes sir, I saw the shadow of four or five men walking; I could hear the walk better than I could tell anything else.

"Martin Clemens examined. — I will be twenty-four years of age if I live to my next birthday. I reside in Darke County, German township. I was not acquainted with Harris, the dec'd; I never saw him. I had no participation in the murder of that man. I do not know who killed him. I was on my road to the festival, and I received the news in Tampico that Shaeffer got badly wounded and probably would die. Where was you coming from? Between six and seven o'clock that night I got the news that Mr. Shaeffer's being hurt. I went up to his residence and found out he was not there, and his wife told me she didn't know where he was; that he had been home about sundown; and so I went back to look for him. He was pretty bad bruised up; he was bloody; he was there bloody and had four or five scars; he was struck on one side of his head and one over his eye; he was bleeding, his clothes were soiled with blood, and he had blood on his cap also; we helped to dress him as best we could; John Clemens and Henry Sain was with me. Tell how you got in? We first went to the door and knocked, and didn't make any answer the first time; and we went back and looked up and down the gutters and fences and found him not, so we went back and called again, and called him by his name, and I suppose he recognized us, and let us in; any way, he let us in, and we found he was badly hurt. John Clemens helped bathe him, and also he bathed himself, and Henry Sain and I looked close at the scars and wounds about his head. After we had been there ten minutes we heard some noise and loud cussing, such as the going on, and it kept approaching the grocery all the time, so we had to close the door and lock it; just then the parties knocked at the door and tried to get in, and after knocking awhile they got to rioting among themselves; they had been rioting ten minutes — I don't know, probably that long. Mr. Shaeffer opened the door and stuck his head out and told the boys to quit and go away, as he didn't want any more rioting here. Did he go out? No, I pulled the door shut and told him to go back. How long after that did you boys go away? It was not, I don't think, to exceed fifteen or twenty minutes; we went to the festival, about, let us see, two miles, three miles off, I think, maybe more. Had you been engaged in any fighting before you went there? Oh, no, sir. Did you boast when you got over to the festival that you had been fighting? I never did to a living soul. When did you first learn that this man was hurt and killed? I first learned of it when on my road to Mr. Settles. Was you on your road to town or Tampico? I was coming back from the festival and would be going towards Tampico; going home. You saw none of them about when you went out? I saw a crowd of men going down hill, west from town; don't know just how far off; it was this side of the bridge. State if you took notice of anybody around there on the ground? We did; I saw this said man that is dead now, but I didn't know anything of the kind; he was lying there and supposed to be drunk; I didn't hear him make any noise whatever; he may have been ten feet away from the grocery door. He was laying off the porch? Oh, yes; there is some logs lying down to step on. He was not on that? Yes; the street runs north and south, but it would be east end of the house; the door is on the street; the street

runs this way (illustrating); the house sets facing east; I didn't stop to notice the man. Did you know the other party that was hurt there? No, sir. Well, you may state whether Mr. Shaeffer in your presence had any participation in this murder, or in killing this man, or did John Clemens? He didn't; I never any blows whatever. Are you any relation to Mr. Shaefer who was whipped? Yes, sir; he is my uncle by marriage; his wife is my blood aunt. I am a cousin to John Clemens. John Clemens lives at Mr. Settles also. Did you have any difficulty with these men? No, sir. You have been in that neighborhood ever since this thing took place? Yes, sir; I have been around in the neighborhood and working for Mr. Settles; I was around there and done the feeding the very morning of the night I staid there. Did Sain go with you? He did. Where did you go then? I went to the festival. Did you three go there? John took his wife up to her father's and stopped there. Did John go to the festival at all? Yes, sir, he did. Is there anything else you wish to state yourself? No. You went to the meeting house? Yes, sir; I staid there until it broke up. You knew nothing about this until the next day? Yes, sir; I came out through that way and found it out coming home. Did you go up to town, then? I had to go through there. Did you go back and see the dead body? Yes, sir, and staid there that night. I couldn't get any body in the town to stay, so me and Henry Sain staid. Was there any body else about town that you saw that night, or in going to the festival? I didn't discover anybody else about at the time; I didn't discover anybody else until I got as far as Simpson's there, when I received the news that Mr. Shaefer was badly hurt. (Esq. Dill). What I want to know is, was there any other parties about there but Mr. Shaefer himself? There was not other parties there when I went on the search for him; in the first place I went to the house, and no one there knew where he was, and I went to hunting and searching for him among the ditches and went up and down the side fences and didn't find him. Was any body with you? John Clemens and Henry Sain. (Court). You was speaking about some parties; you said you seen some parties back there; I want to know whether you saw anybody else there or not; when was it you saw these parties? This was after the racket had ceased and we stepped out to go to the festival. They were going west; I suppose they were twenty rods from Shaefer's grocery, across the culvert there. This was after the racket? Yes, sir. I saw the two men that was hurt when I was going away. Did you see the other man that was hurt? As I stepped out I think we discovered another man, yes, sir. How was he? To the best of my judgment both were lying down. (Esq. Dill). These parties that were going away could you recognize any man in the party? I couldn't. About how many were there of them? In the neighborhood of half a dozen maybe more. You may tell the court if there was men there in the evening, whether there was strangers there at Mr. Shaefer's? Yes, sir, there was several men there that evening, but I don't know who they was.

"Cross examination. — How many white men were there? I don't know, probably there may be a dozen or more. How did you come to go there? When I came across from Mr. Settle's trial, I came across the fields; I think probably L.J. Clemens went across the fields to the shooting match. This was after the trial was over. When we got through the turkeys were all raffled off, except some boys put in some of their own. I think there was a dozen around the saloon, maybe more. The first thing I done after I had fed the horse and got my supper, was to go around to the saloon, and then I went to hunt for Shaefer along the road, and then went up to the saloon, to the front door and knocked, after looking for him, and got no answer. There was no light, because the door was shut, only a shadow. After I gave that rap I got no answer, and we went on looking for him again. Didn't you tell the Sheriff down at Palestine that when you got here, there was no light there? No, sir. Then didn't you say you went to the back part of the room and you knocked and gave the masonic sign and gave your names and he came and let you in at the back door? No, sir, I said I went there and knocked on the same door, and the door was locked after I went in. Then after you were in there you first heard what; what did you first hear of any difficulty? We heard cursing, and they came on the doors. It appeared to be coming from the west, then it came to the saloon. Then there appeared to be knocking going on, and I heard one man say kill the s__ of a b____, and I understood another one to say shoot him. Was the door shut? Yes, sir. What took place next in the saloon; did Shaefer do anything while the striking was going on? He opened the door and looked to see what was going on and demanded peace, and in a few minutes after the noise quit. I was behind the door and could not see out. Then they quit and went away, and immediately afterwards all of us left, and I saw one of the men lying out there, and I though he was drunk, and I saw another man. You heard strikes like horses kicking? Yes, sir, tolerable blows. Didn't you hear men begging off; crying murder and begging for their lives? I didn't hear any man say anything about killing; I heard men say this, don't, or quit. Then you went where? Mr. Clark, I have said that five or six times; I went to the festival and Henry Sain went with me, and John Clemens had his wife. I expect it was midnight when I came back to the saloon, and came back that way because I was coming home from the festival, and stopped because I saw a bright light. You say you had nothing to do with the killing of that man? I do. You say you didn't see anybody do that? I do. Now Andy, you heard these terrible cries and begging for mercy, and you say that you simply passed out and paid no attention to them, you heard these fearful blows and strikes and cursings and threats, and you saw two men lying out there and you just passed on! Why did you pass so carelessly by them? I supposed they were drunken men and I didn't want to trouble with them. You was locked up because you heard trouble outside? Yes, sir, I was. And then at Shaefer's command you all rushed out? Yes, sir, as soon as the noise ceased. Is not that hill a great distance up the road there? It is no distance there. I could see persons going up that way, but don't know where those persons came from, and I don't know where they lived. I don't know what was going on outside. The door was not open all the time while the fighting was going on. I don't know how many men there were, only I saw a crowd go west. The door was locked. I did leave before Smith came back, after the fuss happened. I and Henry Sain, all four were in the saloon during the fight. John Clemens went with his wife, Henry Sain and I went on to the festival, and he came on afterwards. Henry Sain didn't leave first when we came back. I did not call him back, and I heard nobody call Henry Sain's name, whatever. I and Henry Sain went away together, and I was there all the time he was there. I came back about midnight

and staid the balance of the night. There was nothing said about the difficulty between myself and Shaefer, only it was an awful pity, that was all that was said about it. I didn't take much interest in it, not enough to talk about it, and we didn't talk much.

"Re-direct. — I ask you if you heard Shaefer say anything against the party killed? No, sir, I did not. He told me he had nothing against these boys. When I first found him he told me the Vick boys hurt him. I was not there when he got hurt.

"Re-cross-examination — You didn't want to borrow any gun? No, sir. Did you go to a certain house to get a gun to shoot the man that hurt Shaefer. No, sir. Did you tell anybody about what occurred at that saloon when you went up there the last time? Do you mean on my road from Mr. Tilts to the festival? Yes. I told you I didn't discover anybody about. Shaefer was still scared and wouldn't let you in? He didn't let me in sure enough.

"John Clemens examined. — John, what is your age? I will be twenty-four years, I believe, the second day of February. Where do you reside? I was residing about a mile from Palestine, in Darke County, and lived in it nearly all my life. You may State to the Court if you had anything to do with the killing at this house. No, sir, and I don't know who did kill him. The first I found out of his being killed was after getting home that night from the festival. It is about three miles from there, and in a northwest direction from Tampico. It is just a half mile across to the State Line. I was at a grocery in the evening, and I was there in the afternoon at the shooting match. It was close to town. I was not there when Mr. Shaeffer was beaten up so. I first saw him in the house. Henry Sain and Andrew Clemens were with me. We went and knocked on the door the first time and nobody answered, and then we went down to the house and Aunt said he hadn't been there for an hour before sundown, and then we looked around for him, and then we went back again. It was then just dusk, a little while after dusk. We then went back there again, and I called to him or one of the parties did call to him and let him know who was there, and he opened the door. We went in and found him with his head all beat up, and he was bleeding right smart, and I took whisky and washed his head off. Some of the witnesses said you had blood on your hands? I got that off Levi Shaefer. The man that said I fell down I didn't speak to that night. I didn't speak to Charley Revels that night, I never shook hands with him. I had none on my clothes - I bathed his head with whisky - stayed with Shaefer for twenty minutes, I expect. I heard some men swearing and quarreling outside. They knocked, Shaefer sat there still bathing his head; he did go to the door and talk to the men out there. When he opened the door he said stop fighting. He stuck his head out and said to the crowd outside, no fighting, boys, or that he had enough, and the fighting ceased. I expect in five or ten minutes afterwards I and the other boys went out to go over to the festival. Mr. Shaefer nor either of us had any hand in this quarrel. Mr. Shaefer said nothing against them, he said a couple of other fellows beat him up by the name of Vick. These parties were arrested, and I saw them in Tampico that day, that evening I left them in Tampico. I did not stay there that night after the death of this man. I am a married man. I left the grocery to go to the festival. I took my wife part of the way, and the balance of the way I went with Sumner Durant and Elijah Mason and Murphy. I took my wife and left her on the way - been in that neighborhood ever since the death of this man until arrested, right there.

"Cross-examination. — Was the door locked? Yes sir, and Shaefer heard us, as we knocked very loud and could see a small light under the door. Then we went down to the house and came back. Didn't you make arrangements just what to tell? No sir, I couldn't see them while they were fighting, but could hear the knocking and pounding, and also swearing, and I think threats, and Shaefer went out and told them to quit and they stopped; then I went out and saw a man lying there, but couldn't tell whether he was drunk or dead. There was another man lying in the ditch. You took your wife to the festival? No sir, to my fathers. you didn't shake hands, and had no blood on you? No sir, nor didn't tell Thompson about cleaning up Tampico, and nobody else, because I left about six o'clock and don't know what took place while I was gone, but when I came back I heard some fighting. Is it not a fact that the door was open while the fight was going on? No sir, not wide open. Then Shumake's testimony is false? It must be. (Dill). What time in the evening did you come to Tampico? About dusk or a little after, and saw four or five men there, but didn't know who they were. What time in the night did you fall in with Martin Clemens? He works for Mr. Settles and I got with him at his home, and met Sain at Tampico in the road about dusk. It was late when I left the grocery to go to the festival, and stopped at fathers, which is on the same road, and stayed there an hour or so. I don't know what time it was when I left Tampico. How many white men were there that evening? There were four railroaders that I saw, Lee and Tob, Bill and Charley Slick, and a fellow by the name of John Stout. That was before the racket? Yes sir. Did you get there before he was hurt? I went with Mr. Settle home, and when I came back I saw this man lying six feet away from the door and didn't know what was the matter with him, as I didn't stop to examine. Then I am to understand that when you arrived there was no body at the grocery? No sir. These men were there when you left? I didn't see them. These men you gave the names of? Yes sir, when I left to go home in the evening, a little before sundown. Did you see anybody when you went back the second time after dusk. I didn't know them, but heard them talking when I opened the door.

"Levi Shafer called to the stand by the court - Mr. Shaefer, just state how many men in the evening you saw start home from the grocery before the man was hurt; you will tell us how many men were there and who they were; give us their names? I don't know that I can; they was these two Mr. Vicks and they was two Slicks and they was one man by the name of Overman, and then Sumner Durant and a little boy sitting in a spring wagon on the street; I don't know whether Henry Sain was there or not; I didn't see any railroaders; think they had started home at the time; didn't see nary one of them three at that time. One of them bought some liquor of you? About half past four o'clock when they came, and I think they had started away entirely when the racket commenced with me and these two Mr. Vicks; I think they was gone, I ain't sure.

"Re-direct. — You filed an affidavit against these men? Yes, sir. Who requested you to do that? The prosecutor there. (Defense rested).

"Noah J. Vick examined. — I was at Tampico last Saturday evening; I didn't see Shaefer and that railroader have a difficulty, only this railroad man struck him once; I saw the

railroad man strike Shaefer once. Myself, my brother, and I think three railroad men (white) were there; did not see Overman then. How many white men were in Tampico during the evening? I can't tell just how man; I can give the names of some: Charley Slick, Bill Slick, Johnny Turner, William Turner and Candy Flatter; I can't tell how many persons were there when I left; that is, whites and blacks too.

"Cross-examined — I was under arrest myself; I had some trouble with Mr. Shaefer that day, but wouldn't consider it a fight; he shot at me a couple of times. I did not hit him on the head. You are under arrest for that? I don't know of any warrant to that effect. I was arrested and fined for fighting at Spartansburg. Yes, for a little riot at Spartansburg? Yes, sir; and they had my brother arrested. (Dill). What time in the evening did you leave? About dusk. (Court). Haven't you been promised that if you would testify against Shaefer that it would be easier on you? No, sir. I was told they wanted me to testify to all I knowed about the case. Did they tell you that you would come off better if you would? No, sir. I was told when arrested they wanted me as a witness. Did you have any of that fighting whisky with you that night? Yes, sir.

"Re-direct — State whether you pulled Overman off his horse and whipped him? I didn't have my hands on him to whip him.

"Jerry Runkle examined. — In that conversation you and myself had with Mr. Clemens you may state about how he said he got in the saloon that night? Well, he said he went up there to get in, and he said he went to the front door first and couldn't get in, and then he went to the back door and gave the masonic sign, and Shaefer let him in. In the back door? Yes, sir.

"And thereupon both State and defense rested."

The March 8, 1882 "Greenville Democrat" continued with the following account of the Tampico Murder Trial, A.M. Clemens, defendant.

"Monday entire was taken up in procuring a Jury, viz: Henry A. Moore, W.W. Shepherd, James Culbertson, J.H. Rhotehamel, D. Lair, Henry C. Miller, D.V. Lecklider, J. Walker, M.L. Deitrick, J.E. Worth, T.F. Rodgers, J.S. Williams.

"Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock the second day's proceedings in the above case began as follows: First the Clerk swore in the Jury, when Prosecuting Attorney J.C. Clark read the indictment against A.M. Clemens, defendant, and Levi Shafer, whose trial is set for the 13th, charging both with the murder of Charles Harris, at Tampico, on the 24th of last December Prosecutor then stated that the State expected to prove that Shafer, Clemens, Sane and John Clemens, met in Shafer's saloon and prepared to attack Charles Harris, and with the aforesaid associates the defendant at the bar was one of the principal murders. The defense stated that they expected to prove that A.M. Clemens had nothing to do with the killing, and that one of the State's witnesses now in jail killed Harris with a shovel, admitted that he did, and hid the shovel in a well, which has been found and will be produced in Court.

"D.B. Bean called to the stand — Last December I lived with Brombaugh in south part of Indiana, working on the I.B. & W.R. Charles Harris was working there, is about 40 years of age. The last place I saw him was at Tampico, late in the evening on 24th of December. I had no difficulty with any one that evening that I know of, nor did any one have any difficulty with me. Since then I have not had the memory that I had before. Was struck several times on the head, but I don't know who did it. It was my first visit to Tampico. Mr. Harris and I walked to Shafer's saloon in the evening.

"Cross-examined — That is all I know about it. Have been unwell ever since that time. Don't know who did the killing or striking. My memory has not been right since. Mr. Harris was a large, stout man. We had been drinking, I don't say that I did or did not tell the doctor that I was so drunk I did not know anything about it. I was hurt about sundown. Arrived at Tampico about 3 o'clock in the afternoon on that day.

"Samuel Elliot examined — I live about ¼ mile south of Tampico. I have known John and Andrew Clemens four or five years. The defendant is called Martin Clemens. I don't know that I saw the defendant, if I did it was in the evening on his way home. I was at home and heard a racket in the evening at Tampico. By Martin Clemen's voice I recognized him to say while he was running, 'I have a razor and a seven-shoot, and can lick any man in town;' another one said 'hurry up'. At same time I saw a man on a horse in a hurry coming towards Tampico, and supposed him to be John Clemens. It was then about 7 o'clock. They met, stopped and held a consultation in a hollow close to Tampico.

"Cross-examined — I think John Clemens was on a horse and his wife behind him. I thought Martin was there, by his voice.

"Jarreit Mutchiner examined — I lived in Tampico, and have lived there about 10 years. Am acquainted with Martin Clemens and his connections. (A plat of the town of Tampico was presented to the witness and he pointed out Mr. Shafer's house and saloon.) I live on South side of Palestine pike, about 20 rods from saloon, first house from corner. Shafer's stable is Southeast of saloon. My wife and I heard pounding at Shafer's saloon door, and saw men mixing up there. I did not hear anything definitely. Went outside of my house two or three times. When the pounding ceased all the men at the saloon door went in. Did not hear that a man had been killed there till next morning. Could hear a man guggling and breathing a short time. I saw no one come out of the saloon after the difficulty. Andy Bear and Epy's wife walked passed my house, but do not know how far they walked towards the saloon. A hay rigging was close to the saloon at that time, which has since been removed a few rods farther south. There is a side-walk from Shafer's saloon south to his house, and a platform in front of saloon door; Mr. Shafer was not at my house that night.

"Cross-examined — My house is about 600 feet from Shafer's saloon; could not tell who was there, but there were four or five; the door was open pretty much all the time; I heard curses and swearing; was looking through window glass, and was also outside of my house a little while; think the hay ladder has been moved some, noticed that myself.

"M.F. Myers examined — I live in Greenville; made the plat of grounds and saloon and based it on measurement about 2½ rods to the inch, (he explained the chart to the jury; particular attention was paid to the explanation); in front of the platform at the door of saloon is a pike gutter; the hay ladder was laying south of the building, and near it there was a sled; was at Mr. Mutchner's house, and know he could have had a clear view to the saloon, and also Mr.

Shumake.

"Cross-examined — (Plats of saloon and grounds was also presented by deft's counsel, which Mr. Myer's says he made, supposed to be the same kind of plats as State's). The gutter is immediately in front of platform; all measurements were made with a tape-line; logs in platform are close to a foot thick, and laid flat on the ground, making an offset of 8 or 9 inches to ditch; the lamp in saloon was fastened to wall back of counter 17 inches from center of the door; didn't see any knob on the door.

"Gabrel Shumake examined — I was born in 1807, and live in Tampico, about 75 yards from corner on north side of east cross-road; have known Mart Clemens ever since he was born. 'Thar he is.' Between 7 and 8 o'clock the last trouble took place I think in the grocery; my attention was attracted by loud noise; I was in the house, but then went out; saw the saloon door open; there I saw a light; plainly heard licks at the grocery; saw two or three coming out; one was being knocked out; took the men doing the knocking to be Mart and John Clemens. I did see another person going into the door, and saw him struck by two men; when the licks ceased, I saw a form jump up in the doorway and say, 'I told you, Uncle, I could get away with him. I am the best little man in town!' I thought it was John Clemens, by his voice. One said, 'Let me take him off the step.' The reply was, 'No, let him alone; you have done enough. I would d__n sight rather have him out there than in here.' Mr. Shafer said this while standing in the doorway. Andy Clemens is about 6 feet, and John not so tall; thought the licks given to second man attacked were made by a club and something flat; heard a man struggling a short time; the next thing I heard some one say, 'Henry Sane, where are you going? come back here;' and he stood like he was studying, and then walked slowly back to saloon; the man that called him was standing in the saloon door; he went into the saloon and the door was closed again; saw Andrew Martin Clemens passing in and out of saloon; Henry Sane started north; another party left north a short time before; heard of the killing about one hour after the difficulty; I saw Mrs. Shafer, and Wm. Smith, whom I thought was the man that called me when I walked toward the saloon; saw the hay-rigging little south of saloon some days after the fight, but before the fight was close to it, directly in front of saloon; the striking was done by John and Mart Clemens with both hands; while the man laying at the door was struggling and breathing, I saw the door open and shut, and believe the second man struck was a little north of door.

"Cross-examined — I was about 30 feet west of my door, which is about 100 yards from saloon, when fighting commenced; nobody was by my side, but my woman and daughter were at the gate standing there. I saw knocking; and the last thing I saw done before I left that point 30 feet west of my door; was the striking of the man north of saloon; saw the man that was killed knocked out of saloon while falling, and that was the first thing I saw; I looked through the fence and over the fence at the fighting; the fight with Harris was all over when I walked a short distance, and not more than two minutes after the second man was struck close to the door; did not go to the saloon that night; saw Mrs. Sane pass, going to the saloon, about at the corner, when the second fight was going on; I thought it was Mrs. Sane; don't think she could have seen the fighting; it was moonlight and she was about 30 feet from me; some of the fighting took place in the house and some outside, by the door; my memory is tolerably good; do not know who called Sane back. Question - Didn't you tell Mr. Breaden last night that John Sane struck Harris with a shovel, and that Martin Clemens didn't strike Harris? Answer - If I did say that I don't recollect it; I won't say that I didn't tell Mr. Breaden Martin struck Bean; if I said that to Mr. Breaden it was a falsehood; I was taking a little beer last night, and remember walking with him and don't know what I said; I haven't had any beer today, though; I was outside of the lot when the second man was struck.

Tuesday Afternoon

"Court convened on 1½ o'clock, and the crowd of visitors filled half the court-room before court adjourned. The first witness called was:

"Sidney Ann Shumake - I am 15 years of age, Gabriel Shumake is my father, and on the evening of last December was at home, in Tampico, about dusk, when first fight took place. Later in the evening, about 8 o'clock, the last fight took place at Levi Shafer's saloon. I was in the house when I first heard the noise and went out on our door steps; nothing between me and the saloon; I was in the door with father, and Smith came and called father out. He went out to the gate, but came back. I saw a man fall out of saloon door, which was open then and lit up, and Martin Clemens came out with something like a club and struck. Shafer said, 'That will do, you have give him enough,' and then John Clemens said, 'I am the best d__d little man in town,' and he was then going upon the saloon steps. I heard licks at the first fight. Martin and John Clemens went back into the saloon. I heard John Clemens say when he came out of the saloon, 'Henry Sane, come back here.' Do not know whether he went back or not. He also said, standing in the door, 'Let's kick him off the steps.' At the blacksmith shop, half an hour before the last fight, Mart Clemens said to Charley Harris, 'Charley, if you don't keep still there'll be a dead man in a few minutes.' The man that struck Harris when down was Mart Clemens, because I knew him by his clothes and height. After that I went back into the house, and did not see or hear anything else that evening. I saw Martin riding along the road and went west about 5 o'clock.

"Cross-examined — I have not been at home for awhile; have been in the jail building, under guard; saw Martin draw a big club, but did not see him strike; then the murdered man had been tumbled out the door; I thought it was Martin Clemens standing in the door that said, 'Uncle Lee, I told you I could get away with him.' I saw three other men at blacksmith shop, but did not know either of them; did not see them go away; I am acquainted with Sidney Clemens, and have been to school with her, but not after these boys were arrested; I have talked with her about the difficulty. Ques. - Didn't you tell Sidney Clemens on the play ground at school that what you swore to at the examining trial was a d__n lie, and that what your step-mother and father swore were lies? Ans. - No sir, I did not; and she is a d__n liar if she says I did.

"Mary Shumake - I live in Tampico - Sidney Ann is my step-daughter, and Gabriel is my husband; I was in the house eating supper that evening, sometime after 7 o'clock when I heard fussing and beating at Shafer's saloon; I then paid some attention to the fussing, saw three persons come

out of saloon, one a slim, tall man, and two others at the door which was open, one, the biggest man, was Shafer I know; not much acquainted with Martin Clemens; heard one man standing at the door say 'come back, Henry Sane'. They walked in and out the door, but I did not see any one lying in the door-way; it was about 8 o'clock; there was a lamp light in the saloon; knew no voice but Shafer's - heard Harris was killed about 11 o'clock that night, but did not go up to the saloon.

"Cross-examined - My husband and step-daughter were with me; they were reading in the room and I was cooking while the fussing was going on; I did not go out and would not allow my husband to go out till the fighting was over; if he went out I did not know it; I am 25 years of age; all of us were peeping out the door and window at different times; I could not tell who any of them were, except Shafer, who I was well acquainted with.

"Dr. Tennell - I am a Physician, have practiced medicine at Palestine 6 years - was called to see Charles Harris with Dr. Sater, and found him at Tampico, in Shafer's saloon; when arrived at the saloon I found the dead man lying on the floor with his feet toward the door, head on sticks of wood, one blow above the eye, circular wound on side of head; on top of head a heavy bruise; made an incission across top of head; upon right side of head over the ear on the upper portion of temporal bone a triangular piece 1½ inch long, ¼ inch wide, crushed in, and with it a fracture of the skull extended about 5 inches long, which latter wound, we concluded, caused his death, as it was most assuredly a fatal wound.

"The skull was perhaps not ¼ of an inch, and that portion of the skull is the weakest; no cut was seen; the circular wound compares very closely with the hammer (which was shown); Harris' arm was rigid, up about height of shoulder, and one leg rigid; if relaxation had come on I think he would have straightened out; do not think a man could live more than 10 minutes after receiving such a blow, and breathing would come in a gurgling and laborious manner.

"Cross-examined — I arrived there about 12 o'clock December 25th; the right and front wounds of the dead man's head must have been made by some hard substance; he was a large stout man, weighing about 200 pounds; we guessed him about 28 years of age; we found a stake outside with hair and blood on it, and from that we thought that was the instrument used to make the wound about the ear.

"Dr. C.C. Sater examined — I assisted in making the post-mortem examination with Dr. Tennell. Did not get at the saloon till about 1 hour after Dr. Tennell. The body was very rigid, arm drawn up, clear from the body, and leg also. We discovered no wounds on Harris' body, except on the head. (His location of the wounds and character of them was explained about the same as by Dr. Tennell. Cross-examination very little different from Mr. Tennell's.)

"Kizer Sane examined — I live in Tampico; have lived there 9 years. Was in Greenville day before Christmas and got home about 4 o'clock. I saw Mart and John Clemens with a horse pass my house, and they called to Henry Sane for a bridle, as he had none on his horse. All three went off south from my house, and Ed Sane followed. I live north of cross-roads and Shafer lives south. Went out half an hour after and walked up to blacksmith shop, where I heard some men coming from the west who went to the saloon, then I was on the other side of the road. There were only two men, but I did not know them. Did not know where the boys were then. One of the strange men went in the saloon door, and in a few minutes knocking commenced, and the man that went in came tumbling out on the platform. I saw Shafer hit this man with something, and two more licks were struck him; then saw Mart Clemens come out with a stick about a yard and struck the other man, who was on the left side of the door; I saw John Clemens and Henry Sane come out saloon; both of them hit Bean at northeast corner of saloon; Shafer called Henry Sane to come back, and then all went back into the saloon and shut the door; I heard Martin Clemens say, 'I told you, Uncle Levi, I could get away with him;' I heard John Clemens say, 'Kick him (Harris) off the steps;' I went up to the saloon and said, 'Who is it, Uncle Lee?' (meaning Shafer) and he replied 'We don't know;' John Clemens, Henry Sane and Martin Clemens came out pretty soon; the saloon door was open when Shafer came out and I spoke to him; they came out and told me to go home, I might be shot; I seen Mart Clemens the next morning at my house, with Henry, about 5 o'clock; Mart brought in a sling-shot, knife and razor, and wanted them hid, as they might be searched; I did not hear the man was dead till about daylight; the sling-shot, knife and razor, Mart Clemens hid behind the chimney in my house. (They were shown and she identified them.) Alfred Clemens came and got them, but Mr. Clark came and demanded them and I went and got them for him.

"Cross-examined — My son Henry has no razor, and he did not bring the weapons to my house. Bill Slick stayed at my house that night. The largest of the two strange men went into the saloon, and his companion was behind. Shafer was behind the counter when he struck Harris, and he fell on the show-case. I only saw one lick struck in the house, but know there were others. Harris fell sideways out the door; I stood about 3 rods east from the saloon door, but not directly in front of it. Was at home next day, but don't think I told Suttle I was afraid to go out that night, and knew nothing about the difficulty, because I was at home. I told Martin Clemen's mother that I didn't know anything that would do the boys any good. I was in the back room in bed when the boys came in that morning. Martin Clemens took the weapons out of his pocket, and Henry Sane said he could put them in the chimney, where he could get them.

"John Thomas — I know Levi Shafer, and know where his saloon is; I identify the hammer, (which is presented), saw it first on the 30th day of last December under the counter on a barrel in Shafer's saloon covered up with paper; Henry Sane told me I would find the hammer in a box in the farthest end of Shafer's saloon.

"Edward Sane examined. — Will be 16 the 15th of March; Kaziah Sane is my mother, and Henry my brother. On last Christmas eve I was at home, saw Martin and John Clemens at our house, John on a horse with his wife, and Mart was on a horse, too, which had no bridle; they stopped at our house and Mart got a bridle from brother Henry Sane; I heard them talking about Shafer being hurt, and Mart said 'Let's go and hunt him;' then John Clemens and Mart Clemens went to Shafer's house and left Mrs. John Clemens and her children there. The boys then went searching for Shafer, and soon found him in the grocery; I followed them; I heard some men coming from the west swearing and cursing; then I was behind the hayladder, and these men went up to the saloon; the ladder was straight east from the door at that time, and I had a good chance to see in

the house; I saw John Clemens, Henry Sane, Mart Clemens and Levi Shafer in there; just as Harris, one of the men from the west, was admitted, having stepped inside the half open door, I saw Shafer hit him with a hammer, John Clemens with knuckles, and Mart Clemens with an ax-handle - John struck him first. Mart second and Shafer third; the man doubled up and fell out the door backwards, part of his legs remaining in the doorway and the rest of his body was outside; just as soon as he got inside the pounding commenced; his companion was then a little north of the door; when Harris entered the saloon John Clemens said: 'Get out of here, you s__n of a b____h!' and then he struck him. Henry Sane, my brother, had a shovel, and struck the man outside, D.B. Bean, and the blow made him stagger, so did the defendant, with an ax-handle; and John Clemens struck, but I think he missed him, as he fell down; the blows were all made in quick succession.

"They kicked the man lying in the doorway clear off the platform; heard Martin say as he stepped back into the saloon, 'I told you, Uncle Levi, I could get away with him.' John Clemens also said as they went in, 'I am the best d__d man in town.' Afterward Mart and John Clemens and Henry Sane went to the festival. The next morning about daylight they came to my house. I saw Mart Clemens draw the billy, knife and razor out of his pocket, saying, 'I don't want these d__n things if I am arrested.' He then put them in the chimney; never saw the weapons before that morning. The man in the door breathed like one dying in great distress. I heard my mother ask Levi Shafer, when she came up to the door, who that man was.

"Cross-examined — I have been in jail ever since the Grand Jury was in session; I am acquainted with Suttle, but did not tell him I was in the saloon when the fighting occurred; my brother struck Bean with a shovel, but did not see him strike in the saloon; did not tell Suttle the knife belonged to the man that was killed. The door was about half open when Harris was first struck; have not talked with Clark or any of the other attorneys for the prosecution about this case; there was a bright light in the saloon; did not hear Shafer command them to stop; did not see my brother in the house; did not make the same statement before the Grand Jury; I stated more here than I did to the Grand Jury. Ques. - Didn't you swear before the Grand Jury that some one had offered you money to run away? Ans. - 'No, J_____ C_____, no!' Harris was about the size of Mart Clemens; I did not talk to any one in jail unless there was an officer present.

"Pierce Thompson examined — I live in Randolph County, Ind.; Christmas eve I was at the African Church; John and I were talking, when Mart Clemens came up, then they stepped to one side and I heard Mart say, 'We'll know how it will go in the morning.

"Sheriff Runkle — I was in Tampico on the 26th of December last, and again a few days afterwards. The hay ladder has been moved 25 feet south from where it was when I noticed it first; noticed the hay ladder from inside of saloon; from where it is located now I could not see it from within the saloon; I saw Mart Clemens on the 26th in Palestine, and when I asked him about the murder he appeared scared, and his voice and body trembled; Mart did not stay there more than 15 minutes, and followed me and J.C. Clark to Tampico.

"Prosecutor J.C. Clark examined. — I was with Sheriff Runkle on the 26th of December; conversed with Mart Clemens in Palestine on that day, and he appeared excited and troubled, so much so that he could hardly talk. At Shafers saloon I paid particular attention to the location of the hay ladder, and found that one standing at the ladder at that time could see in the saloon and behind the counter; don't know where it is laying now.

"C.M. Anderson examined — Have been out to Tampico twice since the homicide; saw a hay ladder at the saloon, and out attention was especially called to its location, in view of the evidence that would be produced. A week or so ago Mr. Sater and I were out at Tampico, and found the ladder moved about 25 or 30 ft.

"J.W. Sater — Since the 1st of January I have been at Tampico twice; the ladder was a little north of directly opposite the saloon door, and it is now laying about 24 feet away; a person standing at north or east end of hay ladder, when I first saw it, could see the counter in saloon or any one bent over it.

"Court adjourned till nine o'clock this morning."

The March 15, 1882, *Greenville Democrat* includes this account:

"Augustus Cook examined — I now live in Preble county, Ohio, formerly lived in the Tampico settlement; left the settlement last week; have known Mart Clemens about 12 years, and his character, so far as I know, is pretty good, and never heard of him being in any difficulty before this; do not know Ed. or Henry Sane at all.

"Sidney Clemens recalled by the State — After I came back from the festival John Clemens and Henry Sane came, but can't tell what hour; Mart Clemens did not stop at our house that night; didn't see Alex. Epps Christmas morning; John Clemens stayed at our house that night, but don't know what hour he left Sunday morning or who he went away with. The Clemens, my brother, was at home that night; he and Charley were at the examining trial, but they didn't tell me John had been bound over; Shumake told me that two or three days afterward.

"Ed Clemens examined — I am 16 years old, and brother of Martin Clemens; prior to 3 years ago I was a school-mate of Ed. Sane, and his character for truth is not very good.

"Cross-examined — Live with Jackson Clemens now; do not know any dealings outside of school where his word was questioned; know only of his tricks at school.

"Squire McCowen recalled — I know John Holmes, who built brick buildings for me; Martin Clemens assisted Holmes; did not caution him about Martin being a dangerous man.

"Wm. Hayes examined — I was one of the Grand Jurors that found the indictment against Martin Clemens; Henry Sane did not say anything about a shovel being used in the fight; never heard that question asked him.

"J.G. McCowen examined — Am 15 years of age, son of Wm. H. McCowen, and reside in German township; have known Ed Sane 7 or 8 years; before the alleged killing his character for truth was bad.

"Cross-examined — Know that to be a fact from my own personal knowledge, in a business sense; have known him to have dealings at school-house trading knives, etc.; I never dealt with him myself; Henry Sane was not truthful, but did not hear any body say so particularly.

"J.D. Burnett examined — I was a member of the Grand Jury; Henry Sane said nothing about a shovel before the

Jury.

"B.G. Goens examined — Have resided 40 years in German township, served in Union Army; have known the defendant at the bar ever since he was a child; am not related to him; people denominate his character for truth as not bad.

"Sadie Clemens examined — I have lived in German Township all my life; am daughter of Alfred Clemens. Mrs. Sane told me Henry told her he hit a man with a shovel, and that she did not know any thing about the fight till Henry came home; she was at our house then; I saw Ed. Sane have the sling-shot a year or two before the murder, at school; went to school 4 years with him; always heard people say they wouldn't believe him.

"Cross-examined — Don't know whether Mrs. Sane had been at our house before that time - within a year - three days after the murder she spoke about having weapons at her house; my father went and got them and I supposed he was going to take them to town.

"E.P. Clemens examined — Have known Mart Clemens all my life; he is my half-brother's son; I am a school teacher; Martin's character for peace and good order I have always heard to be good. Ed Sane never went to my school; people in general, 3 or 4 years ago, regarded both the Sanes as untruthful.

"Cross-examined — Have heard Epps and 'Squire McCowen speak of Ed Sane's truthfulness, at the time he had a fuss with Epps in school, and others talked that way.

"Eliza Jane Clemens, daughter of Alfred Clemens, examined - I was at the festival and came home with Alex. Epps; he left our house that night about 1 o'clock; I heard Mrs. Sane say at our house 3 or 4 weeks ago that she did not see or know anything about the murder. I have seen Ed Sane have a sling shot at school, lead with a strap to it. (The sling shot was then handed to her.)

"Cross-examined — Never had the sling shot in my hands before; saw Ed Sane have it at home before Christmas; went to Sane's house often; was not with my father when he went after the weapons; John Clemens is my brother.

"Samuel Cable examined — I was a member of the grand jury. Henry Sane said nothing about a shovel being used in the fight.

"Cross-examined — Henry Sane gave me the whole history of the killing; he said nothing about using a shovel himself on any one, and was before the jury about 3 hours -claimed that he was behind the stove in the saloon.

"Arlington Bass examined — Andrew Clemens is my brother-in-law; have known him all my life; his character has been very good so far as I know; have known Henry Sane many years; seen him at the festival and he called me outside and said he had a fight at Tampico, and thought he had killed a man there - hit one of the men that came to the saloon with a shovel and knocked him out the door; he afterward told me he had a knife, and would present it to show he hit the man in self-defense, got it from the man he struck.

"Cross-examined — He said Shafer, John and Martin Clemens were in the saloon, but that he did the killing with a shovel, and that they done nothing. I was not drunk at the festival, and did not have any fuss; went there by myself; there was a slight fuss there; I don't know whether I was in the fuss or not.

"Elijah Clemens examined — Live south of Tampico ¾ of a mile; did not buy an ax-handle of Shafer. (Wrong witness and he was excused.)

"Alex Epps examined — I live at Tampico, German township; talked with Henry Sane in jail; he said he put a shovel in the well in Shafer's lot, and wanted me to get it out; he said he would pay me for it. At the saloon door Sunday morning Henry Sane told me in the presence of Theo. Clemens: 'The man is dead; I hit him with a shovel.' I was at the festival; am not related to Martin Clemens, and have known him 15 years; his character has always been good. Henry Sane told me at the festival he had a hell of a fight at Tampico, and hit a big railroader a hell of a lick, and wouldn't be surprised if he had killed him. I was at Alfred Clemens all night after the festival; John Clemens and Henry Sane came there, but don't know whether Martin came there or not. Sunday afternoon Sane told me at our house that he had killed that fellow.

"Cross-examined — Sidney Clemens and I sit up all night at her house; do not know how many others besides me Henry Sane called out of the church to tell about his fight; he repeated the story three times to me, saying that he had killed a big railroader; I did not make any statement to J.C. Clark, in the presence of Sheriff Runkle in the court-room; did not say to them that Martin Clemens told me all I know; had no talk with John Clemens; I told Polly Holland, yesterday, what I have said here; just happened to sit down and talk to her; Alfred Clemens was with me in jail when I talked privately to Henry Sane, and the guard was standing close by.

"Charles Calkins examined — I am an attorney in this case; one week ago last Monday, I went and hooked the shovel up out of the well, and discovered one or two hairs on it then; the counter in the saloon was 3 or 8 inches from the door; if the hay ladder had been directly opposite the door no one could have seen a person behind the counter, from the ladder, unless that person stood at the west end of it - the counter; the door had to be swung clear back before it would stay open; the counter was higher than an ordinary one; a man might bend over it and strike another coming in the door on the right side of the head, if the head was turned; a person standing at the center of the ladder might possibly see a man strike from behind the counter and others inside of the door but if a large man was in the doorway at the time he might not see in the saloon, nor any one in there; can not say whether the ladder had been moved or not.

Thursday Afternoon

"Cross-examined — The counter board (exhibited) measures 21 inches wide. (Just then an attempt was made to show Shafer's position behind counter in the saloon. Quite a difference of opinion as to whether Ed. Saine's testimony and observation of the fight that night could be true. His ability to see the pounding or killing of Harris from his position was said by defense attorneys to be impossible.)

"John Stowers examined — I live in German township, ½ mile from Tampico; have known Ed. Saine since he was a child; don't know anything about his character. Henry Sane's character for truth and veracity mixed; some say good, others say bad.

"Cross-examined — Have not the means of knowing about the character of Hen. Sane.

"Mrs. Nancy Clemens examined — Have lived ½ mile north of Tampico for 9 years; have known Mart Clemens all

his life; he has been, so far as I know, a just and peaceable citizen; had a good character; know nothing about Ed. Saine's character.

"Cross-examined — Never heard of Martin Clemens drawing a revolver on citizens at Palestine; make up my opinion only from what I have heard.

"Mrs. Jane Shafer examined — Am wife of Levi Shafer; have lived in the county 25 years; know nothing against Mart. Clemens' character; they say he's a coward; Mrs. Sane told me she did not see the fight, knew nothing about it except what her son Henry told her; Ed. Sane was in the saloon looking at Shafer bleeding; went to the grocery about 7 o'clock that night; Henry Sane, John Clemens, Ed. Sane, Mart Clemens and Shafer were there; coffee, sugar, etc., was kept in the grocery; stayed in the grocery about 5 or 10 minutes; Shafer came home about 10 o'clock, washed and laid down till morning. Martin Clemens never asked me for a gun, nor did I hear him make threats. Ed. Sane's character is bad, and Henry's is about the same. I saw the shovel, and it belonged to Levi Shafer; he had no weapons.

"Margaret McCowen examined — I am the wife of Squire McCowen; am acquainted with Martin Clemens; am his second cousin; he was a peaceable citizen.

"Cross-examined — All I speak of is from what I know myself, not upon what others have said.

"Larkin Archy examined — I reside in Indiana, and have known the defendant since he was a child; him and I married half sisters; his character is good in the neighborhood where I lived.

"Cross-examined — Live six miles from Tampico, in Randolph County, Ind., 4 miles from Union City; have lived there altogether about 6 years.

"Lavinia Smith examined — I live in Tampico; have lived there since last October; not particularly acquainted with Mart. Clemens, nor with Mrs. Sane; I heard her say she knew nothing about the murder, that she was in the house that night; not acquainted with Ed. Sane.

"Cross-examined - Formerly lived in Preble county; in Mr. Shafer's house Mrs. Sane spoke to me in the dining room on the 8th of January; she was sent for to take dinner; nobody else was invited there; Judge Calderwood was there; we were all talking about this affair.

"Rev. Chas. Clemens examined — I have resided in German township since 1821. I am Martin Clemen's grandfather, and he has lived in my neighborhood since he was born; his character for truth and veracity is like the generality of young men; could not say anything about Henry Sane's character for truth.

"Cross-examined — Don't recollect of hearing that he drew a revolver on Starbuck in Palestine.

"Joel Burden examined — I reside 11 miles from here; Martin Clemen's reputation as a peaceable citizen has always been good.

"W.W. Epps examined — I am a school teacher, attorney at law, and assisting to try this case; have known Ed Sane ever since he was born; he was a pupil in my school two winters, and his character for truth has not been good; from my own personal knowledge I would say it was very bad. The defendant and I were boys together; his character has always been good; the counter in Shafer's saloon is an ordinary one, about 1 foot from the door; one could not see anybody behind it, if standing out at right angles with the door - would perhaps have to be 25 or 30 feet north of a straight line from the door.

"Cross-examined — I never heard of Martin quarreling with John Holmes, nor of drawing a revolver on Starbuck at Palestine; have not associated with him in the last 2 or 3 years; never heard any special conversation about truthfulness of Edward Sane by men, only that of school children.

"Moses Jefferson examined — I live 2 miles from Tampico; have known Martin Clemens ever since he was a boy; my first wife is his aunt; his character in the neighborhood was good.

"David Mason examined — I am a resident of German township, and have known the defendant all his life; his father is a cousin of mine; so far as I know he has been a quiet citizen; have known Henry Sane about 12 years, but don't know about his character, nor Edward's either.

"Cross-examined — Two or three years ago I heard of Martin getting in a fuss at a church, and also heard of the fuss he had at Palestine; would call his character tolerable good.

Lucinda Stokes examined — I reside at Cincinnati, O.; the defendant is my cousin and Shafer is my father. Moved to Cincinnati last November a year ago; I am married; came here last Saturday. I know nothing against Mart Clemen's character at all; have known Ed and Henry Sane since they were born, and from what people say they were untruthful.

"Cross-examined — Was 21 when married; have heard the McCowens, Clemens, and others say Ed was a bad boy, untruthful; don't know how the subject came up, and could not say I ever heard any special one say Henry Sane was untruthful.

"At this point the attorneys for the defense retired for consultation.

"Levi Shafer was then brought in, and attorneys Calderwood and Calkins conversed with Shafer, privately, before putting him on the witness stand.

"Levi Shafer examined — I am one of the parties indicted jointly with Martin Clemens for the murder of Charles Harris; am not guilty and had nothing to do with it whatever. Will be 62 next April; I served in the rebellion. Besides liquors I had in my grocery coffee, tea, sugar, tobacco, etc. Between 5 and 6 o'clock the Vick boys were fussing below saloon. I stopped that; soon after another fuss took place up farther, and as I went to stop that I passed the spring wagon and heard a shot fired; then one of the Vick boys pounded me, and I appealed to him not to beat me; and afterward Tob Vick snapped a revolver at me. When that was over I went to saloon and bathed my head with whisky; could not tell who was in the saloon as I could not see. Mart was bathing my head at west end of counter when I heard a racket outisde; went to the door and put my head out and quieted the fuss out there in a minute or two; that is my hammer, but never saw that knife, razor or billy. When I wiped the blood out of my eyes I went again to the door and seen one man lying at the door, and heard another north of the door. Wm. Smith and I carried the man in who was lying in front of the door, and he lived about two hours. Mart Clemens nor John Clemens made boasting remarks about me or themselves. Sane and Martin Clemens came back about 2 hours after the man died. I went home before he died and went back again soon. D.B. Bean came in himself before we carried the dead man in. Went home again that night about 3 o'clock in the morning, and came back to

saloon about 6 o'clock.

"I made affidavit for the arrest of Vick boys, by request of Prosecuting Attorney and Sheriff Runkle, as the Vick boys beat me; nothing between Harris and me; no agreement made that night as to what we would swear to; the door in my saloon must be pushed clear back or it will not stay open; I think I had three ax-handles in my grocery; Harris was in there about 5 o'clock and drank some liquor, from the bottle he had. Henry Sane on the 2nd day of March made signs to me in jail, nodded to me twice, and I inferred he would speak to me double if I would speak to him once, and I nodded; he made same signs on 3rd and 4th and next day said to me: 'I am not the worst man in the world; I won't swear anything against you, if they let me alone; you and Martin are not guilty, no how.' That is my shovel, and have dipped ashes out of my stove with it many a time; Noah Turner made me that hammer and I called it my tobacco cutter, using a piece of steel with it; Martin was bathing my head all the time the racket was going on outside; I thought it was outside; don't know whether the door was bolted then or not; the counter, I think is a little closer to the door than 2 feet; the showcase little wider than counter, and projects back; there are 4 panes of glass in it, 2 had been broken out some time before that night; I did not use my hammer that day.

"Cross-examined — I never seen Bean or Harris before that day; saw them first about 4 or 5 o'clock; I was at the shooting match and came back about 5 o'clock; Harris and Bean bought a pint of whisky from me; drank two or three times in my house; did not see Martin or John Clemens at shooting-match; my wife came to the door after I was hurt; John and Mart and Henry Sane came to the saloon between 7 and 8 o'clock; Bean was badly hurt; bloody and muddy; could not talk plain; it wasn't freezing that night; Bean went to my dwelling with me to wash and get a drink, went back and he washed in the saloon; he was muddier than Harris; did not feel the wounds on Harris' head; I was at home three times that evening, and was also at Wm. Shumake's house; I lighted my lamp that night; I think I bolted the door when Martin, John and Henry Sane came in, and when I looked out, after hearing talking and knocks outside, it appeared four or five men were walking away; could see no one, but heard a man grunting close by, and another about 15 feet north; when Smith came after the corn I think I was in the saloon alone; four of us were in the saloon till I went home, about 4 o'clock in the morning; none of us spoke about going for a doctor or coroner, but in the morning we did, Wm. Smith went for Coroner; after I heard the racket outside, nothing was said by any of us; Mrs. Sane did not come to my door that night; I went to see Archy Epps and Shumake to stay up with a dead man, did not talk half an hour to Epps about the killing; did not go home when I was hurt, because I had no whisky there to bathe my head; talked nothing about going after the men that almost killed two men at my saloon; had no talk about who done the killing; did not examine Harris wounds; I have been arrested once before for counterfeiting.

"Henry Sane's testimony before the Coroner's inquest was then read to the Jury, for the purpose of contradicting.

"W.W. Suttle recalled — Ed. Sane told me that Mart Clemens did not strike the man.

"Cross-examined — Mart Clemens, in my judgment, was not drunk when he came to my house before going to the festival; I tried to persuade him not to go; would not let him have my horse; he asked me for an old razor and went and got one, when he remarked, 'Is this the best you got;' I could not say that he took it with him, or that this is the razor or not. (The razor, an old one, was shown Suttle, it being the one taken from behind the chimney in Mrs. Sane's house.)

Thursday Evening

"In order to get through this week the Judge ordered an evening session, which opened as follows:

"John B. Smith examined — Was at the festival on the night of the killing. Henry Sane told me there that he had struck a big railroader with a shovel at Tampico that night and he thought he had killed him.

"Cross-examined — I live in Darke county, am 18 years old; my father is dead, died in the army; I am related to Mart Clemens, second or third cousin; went part of the way to the festival with Sumner Durant and others; Henry Sane told me there were two railroaders, but didn't say anyone else was there, and I asked him no questions; I was not drinking any that night; did ask him 'what the fight was about,' but don't know whether he answered me or not; told nobody but my uncle what Henry Sane said.

"Fred Smith examined — I was not at the festival; never talked to Henry Sane about the killing.

"Chas. Stone examined — Will be 22 years old 21st of June; my folks live in Maryland; have been in jail, and Henry Sane told me in there that Mart Clemens had nothing to do with it.

"Cross-examined — That he hit the dead man himself on the head with a shovel; he said there was only one man hurt; left Maryland two years ago, been here and there ever since; I took money that didn't belong to me, and was put in jail here for that, arrested in Dayton and brought to Arcanum, from there to here; I told John Clemens what I have said here; Sane said the man he struck was out doors, not in the house; pleaded guilty to the charge of stealing money, and am now serving out my time in jail. (Judge Calderwood said John Clemens told him, when brought in the Court-room this afternoon, what the witness testified to.)

"Sidney Clemens recalled — Alex. Epps remained at our house all night.

"With this the counsel for the defense rested."

Rebuttal Testimony

"J.C. Elliott examined — I am a shorthand reporter, and was called to take testimony in the trial before 'Squire Dill. Levi Shafer was sworn as a witness. (The report of the testimony was presented.)

"Cross-examined — The witness said he aimed to take down every word spoken; did not abridge it at all.

"Mike Zeek examined — I reside in New Madison; am 69 years old; was County Commissioner; was a member of the Grand Jury; Wm. Smith said before the jury, I think, that a shovel was used in the fight; he denied anything about an ax-handle at first, but finally said he stepped on a piece of one, and finally a whole ax-handle outside, and I think he said it was burnt up.

"C.C. Walker examined — Was a member of the last Grand Jury; Wm. Smith said he took a light and went out of the saloon to hunt for revolver cylinder, and run against, first, a piece of ax-handle, and then said it was a whole one,

with blood on it, which he took in, and he said they had better get away with it, that it might go hard with them; and then it was burnt up by Shafer or Mart Clemens. The preceeding witness, M. Zeek, then repeated Walker's answer. Smith denied finding an ax-handle several times.

"John Thomas, S.P. Burnett, members of the grand jury, testified the same as the two preceeding witnesses.

"Milton Starbuck examined — I am an officer in Palestine; know Martin Clemens; his character is not very good. I have the means of knowing.

"Cross-examined — Never had a word or fuss with him.

"Squire Miller examined — Do not know what reputation is of Alfred Clemen's sons.

"Sheriff Runkle examined — Have kept guard in the jail; I took Chas. Clemens and Alex Epps in the jail couple times, but they never had a chance to talk with the prisoners unless a guard or myself was there; no such talk as they testified ever took place in the jail; I had conversation in the court house about a month ago with Charley Clemens and Alex Epps about the murder in the presence of Prosecuting Attorney. Charles said all he knew about the murder was what Martin had told him, and that Martin said, muttering to himself, walking down the pike Sunday morning, with John Clemens and Alex Epps, that he killed the man himself with an ax-handle. Epps repeated the same thing; nothing was said about Sane killing the man, or anybody but Martin.

"Cross-examined — The prisoners were kept separated in jail before the indictment was found against them; when I brought Shafer down stairs before the indictment I separated the prisoner, and kept them separated.

"J.C. Clark recalled — On two occasions I conversed with Charles Clemens, and the first time he said, 'Mart said he killed Harris with an ax-handle; that Sane told him nothing about the killing.' Alex Epp's statement was substantially the same as that of Charles Clemens.

"Cross-examined — I have started out to do my duty in this case.

"Levi Shafer's testimony at the Coroner's inquest was read by C.M. Anderson.

Friday Morning

"Court opened at precisely half-past 8 o'clock.

"J.C. Clark was recalled by defense counsel - I did not say to John Thomas, member of grand jury, in substance, that a bill of indictment must be found against all those men; from the facts stated before the grand jury I gave them what grade of crime the law required on such qualification.

"Wm. Hays recalled — I was a member of the grand jury; his testimony in respect to Wm. Smith's statements before the grand jury, were in substance the same as Cable's, Zeek's, and Walker's statements. Counsel for defense then asked the court to allow A.M. Clemens, the defendent at bar to testify.

"Andrew Martin Clemens examined, State having no objections — I lived with Wm. Suttle last December; am married and have one child; taught school three sessions; had nothing to do with the killing of Harris, and never saw him before the day he was killed; am acquainted with John Clemens and Henry Sane; never had a talk with Harris, nor do I know Bean; hadn't carried any deadly weapons for 5 months before the killing; saw Henry Sane have the weapons exhibited here; I never owned a razor, and the one I got from Suttle I lost on my way home; left Tampico about 5 o'clock that evening and went home, (to Suttle's) done the feeding and started for the festival; when I got to Henry Sane's house he told me Shafer was hurt; then by my request, we went to hunt him - first to the house and then to the saloon, and found him in a bad condition, eyes nearly swollen shut, bloody and muddy. John Clemens, Henry and Ed Sane went into the saloon, the latter remained inside till I went out. I bathed Shafer's head; it was between 7 and 8 o'clock when we went into the saloon; Shafer opened the door and let us in; he married mother's sister; nothing was said about preparing for the fight in no way. Shafer did not give me a sling-shot, nor did I see him load a revolver; I knew he owned a gun or two. John Clemens helped to bathe Shafer's head; I said nothing about having a revolver on the pike. At the time I heard cursing from the north outside, was bathing Shafer's head at southwest corner of the room; won't say who opened the door; Sane told me a railroader drew a revolver on him that day and if he seen him again would attack him; just then Harris stepped in the door and Sane said, 'G__d d__n you, you are here,' and immediately struck him several times with a shovel and knocked him down and out the door; Shafer afterward peeped out and demanded peace. Going out I saw Bean coming toward me with a revolver, saying 'G__d d__n you, I'll fix you,' when I picked up a club and struck him down; Sane was the only man that struck Harris after he had made perhaps one step in; that is the shovel Sane used; I did not stay there more than 15 minutes after the fight, and went to the festival; no remarks were made by me or John Clemens in or out of the saloon; Henry Sane went with me to the festival on Elliots horse, and was there till midnight; all along the road he conversed about the fight, and his opinion was that the man would die; saw no ax-handle that night burnt, used or anything; came back to the saloon about 1 o'clock perhaps and the man was dead; on the way going to the festival Sane seemed frightened and said he had a notion to run away; didn't come back with Sane; he came after me. Wm. Smith, Shafer, the dead man and Bean were in the saloon when I came back. Shafer went home about an hour after picked up the shovel and going out hid it; came back and said he put in the well. His direct testimony was a complete denial of the State's witnesses against him. He said he knew Henry Sane to be a dangerous man, that he shot at a man in Tampico, and drew a gun on me when I went to take his cattle - at the time I was Constable. We were separated in jail after we had pleaded to our indictments.

"Cross-examined — I was born in 1858, am over six feet tall, weight about 170 pounds or more; I worked for Suttle at that time twenty-five days; left Suttle's house that afternoon near 1 o'clock to attend a trial; as there was no trial I went to the shooting match about 4 o'clock, and I met Shafer there; Wm. Suttle asked me to go home at Tampico that afternoon, and suppose he thought I would get in a fuss with Vicks; Suttle wouldn't let me have his horse to go to the festival and requested me not to go; picked up Elliot's horse on the road and rode through town; stopped at Henry Sane's house and he got a bridle; that evening the lamp in the saloon was burning all the time; Levi Shafer demanded peace after Harris was knocked out, and I didn't see anybody close the door then, but it went shut, Henry Sane then outside. I heard footsteps coming to the saloon, followed by blows, cursing and threats soon afterward near the

door; I was inside of the saloon at that time. (Many questions were asked him pertaining to what he swore to before the Coroner and 'Squire Dill, and his answers were mostly contradictory, in substance to defend himself and throw the charge of the murder of Harris on Henry Sane, admitting that he struck Bean, and dropped the club outside of the saloon somewhere.)

"Ques. - Didn't you send for Prosecutor Clark on the 8th of January? Ans. - Yes sir. Ques. - Then didn't you say in the Sheriff's parlor, on that day, before John Turpen, Daniel Himes, Dan'l Turpen, the Prosecutor and the Sheriff, that you desired to make a statement and that you 4 men were in the saloon and two men came there, and when one (Harris) came in Levi Shafer struck him on the head with a hammer and killed him? Ans. - I did; but it was false; said it because Henry Sane told me before that day in the jail that he had the long end of the string and by God he intended to use it against us John Clemens, Levi Shafer and myself - if we didn't swear just what he intended to swear; I am not certain whether I told those men on that day that Bean came at me with a knife or revolver; could not say what Bean had, but it was something that glistened.

"Dr. Tennell recalled — Charley Harris' face the morning I seen him lying on the floor of Shafer's saloon was so dirty I could hardly tell whether he was a colored man or not. There was one circular, deep wound on Harris' head that could not have been made by that shovel, which wound, in my mind, compared closely to that made by a hammer, such as that (Shafer's hammer was shown).

"Cross-examined — I don't think the shovel could have made the wound above Harris' ear, but it could probably have been produced by a stick or ax-handle.

Friday Afternoon

"Dr. C.C. Sater recalled — I am confident the circular wound on upper right side of Harris' head could not have been made by that shovel.

"Cross-examined — Don't think it barely possible to make such an angular fracture as was in Harris' skull with that shovel; it might crush the skull just at the point where the oval bend in the shovel hit, but I don't think a break of four or five inches would be made; a blow with knuckles would cut the scalp; we did find a piece of fence post, about 6 feet long, at north end of saloon, near where Bean laid, with a blotch of blood on it.

"Dr. J.A. Jobes examined — Formerly lived at Palestine; never heard anything against Henry Sane up to 6 years ago; he was then a boy and I knew him.

"James Harding examined — I have known Henry Sane; he worked for me; his reputation for truth and veracity was good.

"Cross-examined — I have heard some say he was a peacable boy, but would be dangerous to run against; heard of him having some trouble with the Thomas boys.

"Pierce Thompson examined — I was at the festival; saw Arlington Bass have a fuss there, and John Clemens was there.

"John Holmes examined — Worked for 'Squire McCowen putting up buildings; Mr. and Mrs. McCowen cautioned me about Mart Clemens, who was working for me then, to be careful with him, as he had threatened to kill me.

"Edward Sane recalled — Was never the owner of that sling-shot and never carried it, nor showed one to Sidney Clemens; I have got one and it is at home.

"Dr. J.E. Matchett examined — I heard the doctors who held the post-mortem examination on the body of Charles Harris; the circular wound spoken of, could not possibly have been produced by that shovel.

"Henry Sane recalled — I never told Martin Clemens in jail about clearing myself in this case; no such talk.

"Reuben Hinsley examined — I am guard in jail, have been since the 23rd of January; Charles Clemens and Alex Epps were in the jail, but had no conversation with Henry Sane about the shovel in Shafer's well; there was no private talk; I stood within 3 or 4 feet of them and heard all that was said.

"Cross-examined — They did not say more than half a dozen words to Henry; don't remember what they said to him or John Clemens; there was nothing said, I know touching the murder.

"John C. Turpen examined — Am Auditor of Darke county; was present in Sheriff's parlor on 8th of January. Martin Clemens said there that Bean came at him with a knife, and in self-defense struck him with a club; he did not say anything about a revolver; the conversation was voluntarily; he claimed that he didn't strike Harris; so far as I am concerned my presence there was purely accidental; am certain he didn't say Henry Sane had killed Harris, but did say that only one man struck him and also the weapon used.

"Daniel Turpen examined — Am not positive whether Mart Clemens said in the Sheriff's parlor that Bean came at him with a knife or pistol when he came out the saloon door.

"Sheriff Runkle recalled — By a voluntary request of Mart Clements I went for Prosecutor Clark on the 8th of January; previous to that day Mrs. Clemens and I were in jail, and there we told Martin it would be better for him to tell the truth; his statement in the presence of me and others at the jail was wholly voluntarily. (His testimony about the statement of Mart Clemens was the same as the two preceeding witnesses.)

"With this witness the State rested - 15 minutes before 3 o'clock.

"Prosecuting Attorney J.C. Clark opened the argument for the State at half past 3 o'clock.

"Saturday. A.R. Calderwood and Charles Calkins made arguments for the defense, and John W. Sater closed for the State, when Judge D.L. Meeker delivered the following charge to the jury.

"About 6 o'clock Saturday evening the Jury retired for deliberation, and on Sunday afternoon, between 4 and 5 o'clock, a verdict of murder in the second degree was rendered. The court-room was filled with people, and good order was preserved. The prisoner received the verdict with a smile, and began whistling as soon as he seated himself in the apartment assigned him in jail."

Clark's Station

This area was called Cheesetown by the old timers around the turn of the century, because John Puterbaugh used to make cheese near there. Clark's Station probably got its name from James Clark who owned land there as shown on the 1888 plat. Perhaps he started the elevator when the train built its tracks there in 1882.

The post office located at Clark's Station went by Noggle.

Noggle was a prominent name in the area, and Samuel Noggle bought land in S½ of NW¼ of section 11 tp 10 R1E from John Puterbaugh January 12, 1828. (Deed book C-1-171). Also George Noggle was an early pioneer, coming to Darke county in 1812, and settling in section 15 of Harrison township in 1825.

A newspaper article in Norma Lowdenslager's scrapbook indicates that a D.L. Mote bought Clark's Station elevator in 1893. The 1900 *Biographical History of Darke County* gives this account of William Calvin Mote. "In 1894 he came to Clark's Station, Darke county, and purchased a grain house and elevator, and the following summer, when appointed assistant postmaster of that place, he established a general store there, which he has successfully carried on in connection with his grain business."

Clark's Station Account Book

Daniel Hollinger has in his possession, a ledger from Clark Station. The ledger lists accounts in the grocery and the elevator.

Those shown to have had accounts at the Clarks elevator/store, 1904-05, were G.M. Noggle & Son, E.E. Noggle, M.D. Teaford, W. Timmons, Loyd Ketring, H.M. Shell, Wm. Greenlee, Chas. Noggle, W. Brinley, N.W. Brown, John H. Bollinger, W.E. Michael, Thomas Stump, Wm. Stump, Sam Caskey, Vern Brown, E. Burgess, A. Moore, L. Wells, Wilson Lutz, E. Petry, Leroy Clark, Wm. Wilt, Edd Strohaver, Moses Ritenour, Res Wolful, Geo. C. Stump, P.T. Wilcox, Joshua Auckerman, C.H. Smelker, John Reigle, John Owens, David Ross, M.W. Davis, L.E. Stephens, Sherman Morgan and Wm. Rolfe.

Throughout the period of these records, May 1904 to Dec. 1905, accounts overlapped of G.M. Noggle, G.M. Noggle & Son, and E.E. Noggle, which leads to the possibility that these two owned and operated the Clarks elevator during this time, and used the ledger to keep their accounts recorded.

The Clark School records indicate that May 2, 1905 the board paid E.E. Noggle for oil, stationary, chalk, and freight on books.

Clark Station School bought coal from G.M. Noggle & Son in September of 1905 according to school board records.

Through this period also, Sherman Morgan labored at the elevator as shown on the labor account, May 26, 1904 to Dec. 24, 1905. Also Ezra Petry is listed as beginning work Mar. 9, 1905.

During this period the elevator bought rye from 53¢ to 60¢/bus.; corn 47-52¢/bus; wheat 65¢-$1.10/bus.; and oats 26-30¢/bus.

The elevator sold timothy and clover seed for $6.00-$7.50/bus. Also sold much flour and millfeed, and standard and hemp twine.

Flour sold for about 3¢/lb. Sold several hundred pound to Weavers Station. Most of the mill feed bought was from Howard Feltman & Rahn. Prices ranged from $15.00 to $20.25 per ton for bran, and $20.00 to $23.00 per ton for mids.

Clark's bought their flour from Howard Feltman & Rahn, G.R. Keller, Weavers, Richmond Champion Mills, A.Weimer & Son, C. Cable, Richmond, paying from $4.00 to $6.00 a barrel.

At the elevator they also did grinding, sold coal oil, and an occasional charge for telegraphing is found in the ledger.

1902 - A look at 1902 invoice shows horehound stick, sweet maiden soap, elder B. soap, Gold Tips cigars 1½¢, Perfection coal oil 8¢ gal., Crown Gasoline 19¢ gal., Climax coffee. asst. stick 6½¢ and mix. candy 6¢ lb. Pawnee cigars, pickeral 37¢ Pl., galv tubs, mint loz, wintergreen los, Dunham's cocoanut, New Madison Stogies $1.10 box, Wyandotte Baking Soda, 1 Bb. Crax (48 lb.) 6¾¢ lb. (barrel crackers), turpentine, G.S. Bay Rum, G.S. Sweet Oil, G.S. Vazalatum, G.S. Epsom salts, prunes, Big Deal Soap, Jap rice 5½¢ lb., summer bologna 13½¢ lb., Viciola, Mucilage, Golden Rio coffee, German Sweet chocolate 24¢ lb., French creams 8½¢ lb., Florodora cigars 2½¢, Crema cigars, June Rose Soap, Palm soap, Fruit Julips, swt. wheat gum, banna gum, Juicy fruit, Blood Orange Gum, Sythe & Snice 1.30, Swt. Burley tobacco 40¢ lb., roasted Pea-nuts 7¢ lb., Mason Jars, Lenox soap, mosq. netting, lump starch, imp. tea 35¢ lb., Polar Bear tobacco, lemons, loaded paper shells, pop 50¢ case, Liquid Francoinia, 12 ga. shells, 22 shorts cartriges, gun caps, Evap. apricots, alum, Old Va. Cheroots, Drum tobacco, Gem Wax, U-needa Milk Biscuit, corn cutters, Zubian wax, Malta Vita, Roy A. Sugar, tin cans, husking pins, Cutlass tobacco, Briar Pipe tobacco, Zibian Wax, Flag slate pencils, Wyandotte Wash. Powd., Bull Dog Pikes, Cold Blast Lanterns, D.S. Oysters, McCullogh's Yeast, Clock & Gum Deal, B. Beef Loaf, Oriental Salmon, LaReine Sultana Cigars, dr. peaches, corn meal, Mother's Oats.

Groceries - Baking Powder 3 2/3¢ can, Sweet chocolate 3 1/3¢ cake, Bell Starch 4¢ box, Dr. Currants 9¢ box, sardines 3.65¢ box, baked beans 3.5¢ box, salmon 8 1/3¢ can, Ball Blue 2½¢ box, Bluing 3¢ box, Cinnamon Bark 30¢/doz., Gr. Ginger.

Tobaccos: J.T. 36¢ lb., Cross Bow, Star, Battle Ax, Standard Navy, Wetmose's Best, Little Major, News Boy, Rise & Shine, Brandy-wine, Granges Twist, Cutlass, P. Bear, Dukes Mixture, Mail Pouch.

Armour's Tar Soap 3¢ cake, Armour's White soap 3½¢ cake, Lenox soap, Bix Deal soap.

Polo B. June Peas 3½¢ can, rice 6½¢ lb., Parrafine wax 11¢ cake, Grape-nuts, Golden Rio coffee 11¼¢ lb., Lion coffee, Gd. pepper 16¢ lb., cr. tarter 30¢ lb., cloves 16¢ lb., tea.

Gr. Alspice, Gr. cloves, Gr. cinnamon, Pickle Spice, Mint Loz, Nutmegs, Grain Pepper, Grain Alspice, Pilsbury Vitos, Candy, Snyder's cough drops, Jelly Beans 8¢ lb., Salt 3¢ sack, Red Sugar, Blue Sugar, Hominy.

Memorandum Books, fruit can fillers, Rolled Oats 7¢ box, Wrapping Twine, Calf Skin cigars 75¢ box, Tin Fruit Cans 40¢ doz., Matches 2¢ box, Stock Powders, Glass tubes, glass cutter, Large envelops, no. 6½ envelops, Fly paper 1¢ sheet, cob pipes 2½¢, tin foil, tooth picks 2½¢ box, A. & H. Soda 3¢ box, Cove Oysters 8 1/3¢ can, mustard 8 1/3¢ bottle, coffee Essense, Red Seal lye 8 1/3¢ can, Salt fish (in basket) 8 1/3¢ lb., Navy Beans 5¼¢ lb., Wooden Clothes Pins, crackers, paper bags, bulk starch 3¢ lb., note paper, chewing gum, licorice ½¢ stick, wood pipes, Pawnee cigars, Legal cap paper, c. sugar 4.34¢ lb., A. sugar, granulated sugar 5.24¢ lb., S. Brooms 16 2/3¢, Powder, coal oil 8¢ gal., machine oil 18¢ gal., cider vinegar 10¢ gal.,

harness oil 50¢ gal., oil carpet 23¢ yd., Clarks thread 52¢ doz., peaches $1.60 doz., tomatoes $1.00 doz., gasoline 10¢ gal., cyliner oil 35¢ gal.

Notions & Hardware - Laxative Quinine 10¢ box, Sulphate Quinine 6¼¢ box, handkerchiefs, court plaster 2½¢ pack, knitting needles 5¢ doz., Shell hair pins, goggles, spectacles 26¢, com. hair pins, arm bands, fine combs, rubber web, collar buttons 6¼¢ doz., needles, crochet hook 4¢, Gold Collar Buttons 6¼¢, pins, combs, pen holders, neck ties 16 2/3¢, 8 in cross cut files 8 1/3¢, 3 in hand saw files, shot 5¢ lb., boxwood rules, Star Stove polish 6¼¢ can.

Hasps, Hinges, bolts, door stops, Husking Pegs 3¢, Harness snaps, wrist bands 5½¢, brushes, curry comb, picture wire, fruit can covers 3¢ doz., can rubbers 3¢ doz., screws, assorted, hooks and eyes, lead, washers, carpet tack pullers 2½¢, shapft springs, cotters, bottles ink 3¢, sealing wax, wire shoe nails, screen door hinges, glycerine 6¼¢ bottle.

Enamilene, shoe blacking, shoe polish, coils buggy washers, nails, lantern chimneys 6¼¢, oil cans, umbrellas 37½¢, wash boards 25¢, Kow Kure, Garget cure, castor oil 6½¢ bottle, extracts, can fillers, lemon ext., lamp mantles, oilers, stove polish, carpet tax, lamp burners, boot laces, corn cure, Paris Green, sulphure, quinine 11¢ bottle, gum camphor 4¢ cake, gelatine 7½¢ box, Rosin, Vessexi, cartridges, De Witte's Witch Hazel Salve, De Wiltes Liver Pills 16 2/3¢ box.

Stewars tablets, Sherman's headache cure 6 2/3¢ box, pen knives, tape measure, hair brush, perfect garters, tooth brushes, harmonicas, marbles, lead pencils, Teaspoons, fish lines, slate pencils, mourning pins, safty pins, thimbles, pocket books, hair pins money purses, balls, straw hats 6¼¢, capital bitters, Minila paper, Duck coats $1.66.

Mattock handle, 4 tine fork, buggy whip garden hoe, garden rakes, shovels, mica axel greese, pants, overalls 37½¢, work shirts, mittens, white mittens, unlined kid gloves, boys kid gloves, womens hose, horse hide gloves, husking gloves, Hog hide gloves, goat hide gloves, penny tablets, ear muffs, suspenders 18¾¢, Mackintosh coat $1.79, lace shelp paper, dress buttons, coat buttons, suspenders, buttons, small pearl buttons, white pearl buttons, large coat buttons, hatchets, jumpers, brownies, shirts, school bags, red bandana handkerchiefs 6¼¢, caps, slate, counter books, ink tablets, rubber collars, toweling cashmere gloves, mosquito bar, socks, small flags.

Clark Station Store

Patent Medicines - Kemps Balsam, Chicken Colera Rem Kodol Dys Cure 33 1/3¢ bottle, Nerve tablets, Epsom Saltz colic cure, Lightning Kidney & Liver Cure, Lighting Celery Bitters, Lane's Family Med'ce, Miles' Nerve Cure, Fr. Armica, Fenner's Golden Relief, One Minute Cough Cure Lightning Worm Killer, Lightning Hot Drops, Blood & Liver Rem., Piso's consumption cure, Catarrh Cure Michael's Cough Honey 16 2/3¢ bottle, Fenners Cough Remedy 33 1/3¢ bottle, New Rival Loaded Shells.

Other Elevator Owners - Clark School bought 7 ton of coal from J.M. McFarland in 1907. The patron's directory of 1910 Atlas gives: proprietor of Clark's Station Elevator, J.M. McFarland, dealer in grain, flour, seeds, salt, coal, etc.

Aukerman and Cook owned the elevator at Clark's Station in 1909 and 1910.

"Fred Aukerman Elevator and general store Clark, Ohio. Seeds, Mill feed, coal, cement, fence and fence posts always in stock. Dixie Gem Coal a specialty. Try it. RFD New Madison, Ohio." (Ad in 1916 Farm Journal "Rural Directory of Darke County")

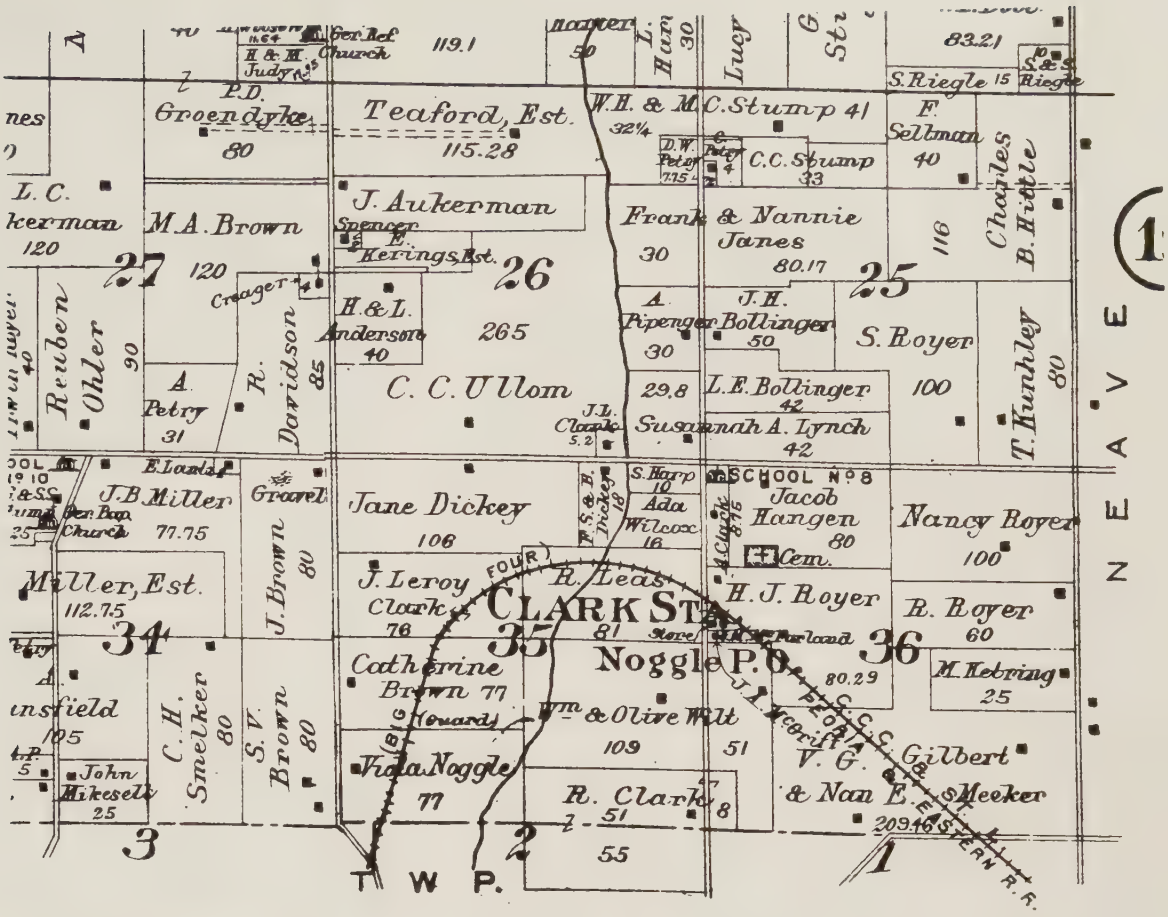
Ed Jefferis and George Harris were partners at the elevator 1918 and 1919. Willie Hollinger and Richards ran the elevator/store from 1919 to 1922. In 1923, Bert McCool and Lou Aukerman were running the elevator/store. In 1925, Aukerman was partners with Orville McKee.

When Bill Brown owned the elevator around 1927-30, Chauncy Pipenger ran the elevator. A later owner was Rolla Trout, and finally Dale Routzong.

Early Days - Fred Aukerman was running the elevator/store when Orla Riegle moved to the old Puterbaugh farm in 1915. The elevator had four silos, a two story elevator building, a coal bin back of the elevator. Later, a small coal shed was built by the tracks by perhaps Bill Brown. The scales were under an overhang roof from the store. A gas pump was by the store. One residence was for the elevator/store owner. Also the Dorla Metzcar house and Leo Rush's house were nearby. The house and store building are still there.

Orla recounts that an old wooden boxcar with no wheels sat flat on the ground near the tracks and served as the depot. A flag hung on a nail in the boxcar; anyone wanting the train to stop would wave the flag, then hang it back on the nail. The passenger would pay when he got aboard, and would ride toward Arcanum or Glen Karn. The train was known as the "Hootle Bug" locally, and ran by railroad time. When the diesel trains came, they ran six days a week passing through Glen Karn at 9:00 a.m. heading west, and 5:20 p.m. heading east. In 1930 Doc Meyers was killed in a car-train wreck where the tracks crossed the Hollansburg-Sampson Road.

The elevator was originally powered by steam, but Orla remembers a one lunger - one cylinder coal oil engine - that ran everything in the elevator. The engine powered the corn sheller, drags, re-cleaner, and burr mill to grind feed. The engine may have been a Fairbanks-Morse. It had no spark plug. To start the engine, a long match was put through a hole in the head, the flywheel was turned to bring the piston right up against the match. A trip lever was hit to strike the



1910 Clark Station

Clark Station elevator - Charlie Campbell, driver, and Marshall Wilcox in wagon.

match thus firing the piston. If lucky the engine would start, but often the elevator operator had to work and work to get the compression-fired engine going.

Orla tells of Hy Clark, who in 1915 was in his 70's, and told of an old jug tavern across the road. You could take a jug over to get it filled up with whiskey. Hy said the whiskey was almost thick as molasses.

1951 Fire - "Elevator Near New Madison Destroyed by Fire: Owner Sets Loss at $55,000.

"New Madison - Fire, ever present menace in rural areas, destroyed the Clark station grain elevator four miles northwest of here Sunday night. Dale Routzong, owner and operator of the elevator, said Monday afternoon he estimated his loss at $55,000.

"Routzong, who suffered minor facial burns fighting the fire, said there had been an elevator on the site for about 100 years. He hopes to rebuild.

"Four bleak, cement silos were all that stood Monday after the fast-spreading flames took their toll during the night. The wooden elevator structure was covered by corrugated sheets. Monday they were twisted and torn, a result of the seering flames.

"Smoke still poured from the elevator Monday afternoon and many small fires still were burning in the destroyed business.

"Routzong, navy veteran and native of Darke county, said he discovered the fire about 11:30 p.m. Sunday. Its origin was not determined.

" 'I saw the flames flickering from my nearby bedroom window', he said, 'and ran out to see what was burning.'

"Routzong's general store, home and other buildings, only about 150 feet south of the elevator were saved from the devouring flames. He can be credited with saving them as can the New Madison and Palestine Fire departments.

"Routzong played a stream of water on his store from a garden hose. He had to quit just before the two fire companies arrived because the fire burned out electric power lines, shutting off his electricity and cutting out his water pressure.

"A neighbor to the north of the elevator, George Sullenbarger, and two to the south, Gene and Robert Wilt, helped fight the fire.

"The paint on the north side of Routzong's general store Monday was blistered as a result of the heat from the elevator flames.

"Routzong had operated the elevator about four years, buying it from R.M. Trout in May of 1947. Many owners had operated the elevator since a Mr. Clark built one there about 100 years ago to store his feed.

"In the four silos were stored about 3,500 bushels of corn, wheat and oats. In addition to losing these grains, he lost all his elevator equipment, Routzong said.

"A new corn cob grinder, in operation only two weeks, was among the equipment lost. Other articles included feed, ladders, spouting, cement mixers, hog houses, two trucks, 560 gallons of paint and fertilizer.

" 'Much of the equipment I will not be able to replace,' Routzong said, commenting that he remodeled the building only three years ago. The loss was covered partially by insurance.

"Power was restored to the area Monday. Before coming to Clark's station. Routzong operated general stores in three other areas in Darke county." (March 11, 1951 newspaper article)

Dale Routzong, right, and his father-in-law, William H. Glunt, look at the wreckage of the elevator Monday afternoon. Routzong's general store is to the left of the structure.

Glen Karn

This still industrious village got its name in honor of Henry Karn. Born in Butler County, Ohio in 1835, Henry Karn came to Darke County with his parents about 1852. He lived in Butler County and in Shelby County, Illinois, before again returning to Darke County. He returned in the 1870's locating in Baker, then moving to Hollansburg where he ran a store for six years.

A biographical History of Darke County, Ohio published 1900 adds, "Mr. Karn has accumulated about one hundred acres of land, and has a good property in Glen-Karn. There were no buildings at that place when he located there, no railroad and no pike, and the introduction of these improvements have been secured largely through his own efforts. He laid out the town in 1884, built the first house there, and has since sold many lots. It now contains sixteen dwellings, two stores, an ice depot, and is an enterprising little village in the midst of a rich farming district."

The original plat surveyed by Eli Armacost in 1884 contained lots 1 through 13. It was actually platted by proprietor Henry Karn as Karn's first addition to Hollandsburgh, following the building of the I.B. & W. Railroad. The 1888 plat labels it Hollansburg Station.

William Albert Chenoweth "went into Glen Karn and general merchandise business July 1882. They built the first building in Glen Karn July 1882. They shipped the first load of grain from Glen Karn and received the first shipment. Named the little village later, and was instrumental in getting the post office and school building, also a good road into the place from the east. Their business prospered from the first and has reached the point where it compares with the best general merchandise store in the country, outside of the largest cities." (pg. 174, 1925 *History of the Chenoweth Family,* Mrs. Cora Chenoweth Hiatt. Lynn, Ind.)

Vaughn Chenoweth states that the store originally started in front of a big two-story house directly across from the elevator. Later, W.A. Chenoweth moved the store into the newly built store.

The business directory from the 1888 Plat of Darke County gives the following description for W.A. Chenoweth's

"Popular Store at the O.I. & W. Station, Hollansburg. We are making a specialty of Ladies' and Gents' Furnishing Goods, Neck and Footwear, Fine dress goods, Trimmings, Pants, Overalls, Waists and Shirts. We have a large assortment of Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions, Medicines, California Dried and Evaporated Fruits and Canned Goods, Queensware, Hardware, Woodenware, etc. Latest styles in Hats, Boots and Shoes, and everything found in a general store. We pay the highest price for Produce and Poultry. Our motto is: 'Give 100 cents' worth for $1.00, and 16 ounces for a pound,' and prices as low as the lowest. We are also connected with the Western Ohio Creamery and furnish the best of Butter at bottom prices."

Of George W. Hill, page 513 of the 1900 *Biographies of Darke County, Ohio,* says, "he was engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years. He then turned his attention to the merchandising business, which he followed for about five years. In 1895 he built the Glen Karn Hotel, which he has since conducted, and in connection with which he is also running a grocery and livery and feed business."

"Mrs. (Ella) Hill is the postmistress at Glen Karn, and is assisted in the duties of the office by her husband."

The 1908 "Rural Route and Business Directory of Darke County" lists the following businesses for that year: W.A. Chenoweth, General Store; W.A. Harrison, Hotel and Feed Stable; G.W. Hill, Groceries; Wm. Horn, Blacksmith; and O.P. Klepfinger, Grain Elevator.

The 1910 map shows many businesses - a saw mill, canning factory, hotel, stock yards, depot, machine shop, and elevator. John Miller ran the saw mill, advertising, "Hardwood lumber, dimension stock a specialty".

The Farm Journal "Rural Directory of Darke County" for 1916-21 lists for Glen Karn: A.M. Richards & Sons Flour & Feed, Court Koontz groceries, and W.A. Harrison hotel.

A store and pool room used to be in the house on the northeast corner of the Chenoweth Road intersection. The building on the southeast corner may have been Court Koontz shoe repair shop at one time.

In 1935 Kraft cheese went into the brick building. Bob Mikesell used to haul milk there, and Idris Lantz used to test cream for the company. A creamery along the railroad tracks is still standing.

Other early businesses included Mont Simpson's gas station and Vern Chenoweth's International Harvestor dealership.

The 1938 centennial program for Hollansburg lists the following businesses in Glen Karn:

Kraft-Phenix Cheese Corporation

W.A. Chenoweth Co. welcomes you to our store during the centennial. Make our Store headquarters for your winter's supplies - sweaters, work gloves, overalls, work sox, dresses, hosiery, blankets, linoleums, rugs, stove pipe, stove boards, etc. Our grocery department can supply you with all your eats — canned goods, vegetables, fruits, fresh & cured meats, highest market price paid for produce.

Mack's Place - cold beer, soft drinks, sandwiches, candy, cigarettes, tobacco, cigars.

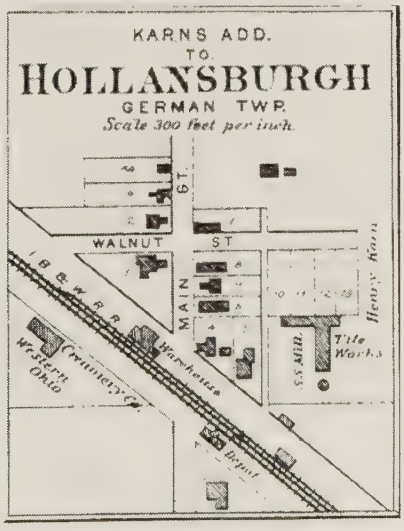
Richards & Simpson Grain Dealers - mill feed, seeds, salt, coal.

The Shirley Canning Co. packers of fancy hand-packed tomatoes and catsup. Main office: Shirley, Ind.

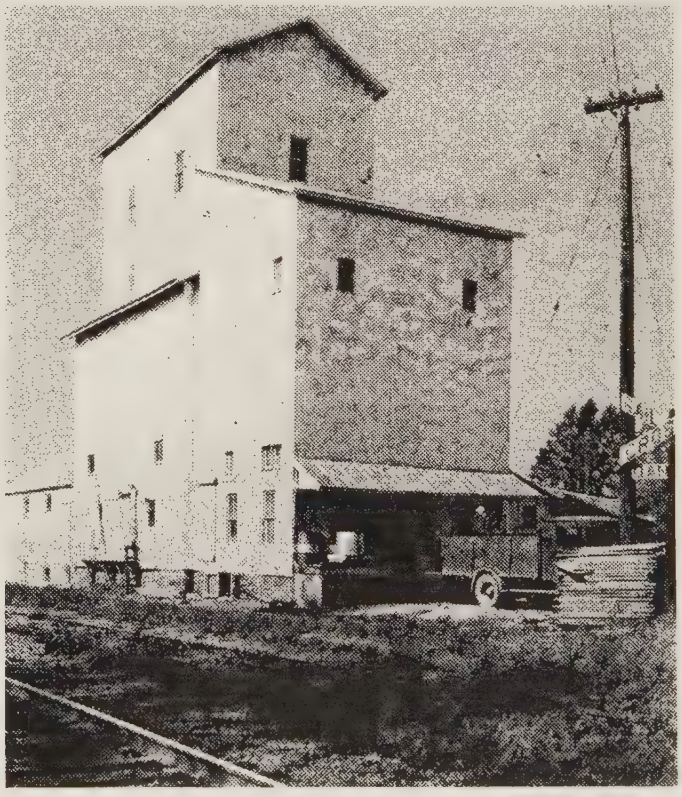
W.C. "Clark" Mote bought the Glen Karn elevator in 1939 from Richards and Simpson, which he ran until 1952. The Motes went into the lumber business in 1953 - managed by Wendell.

The Kraft building was used to process chickens. Mote's lumber now used the Shirley cannery for a warehouse. The elevator is now used in the production of dog food.

Sam's Place and the Kaiser farm chemical plant are businesses now active in Glen Karn.



1888 Glen Karn



Glen Karn Elevator

Early Post Offices

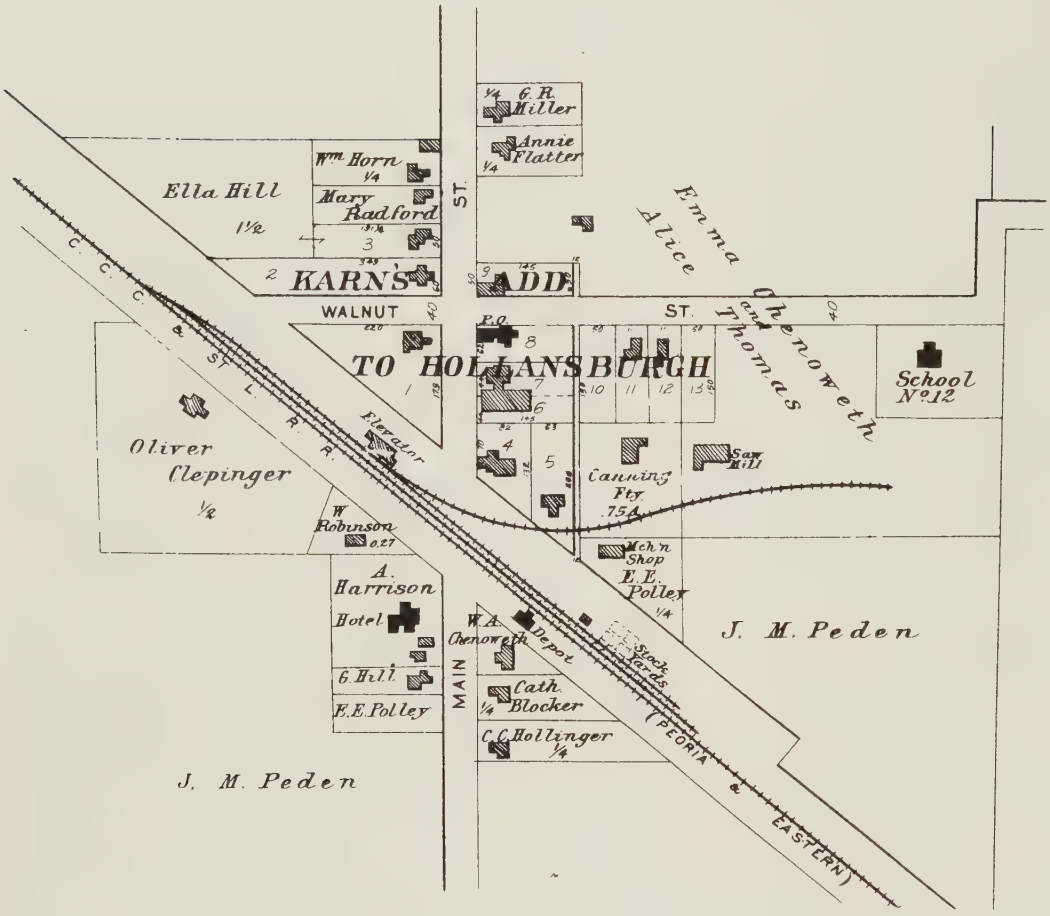
Records from the National Archives in Washington D.C. list many post offices in our area.

Of the more well-known are included Baker (after 1873 to

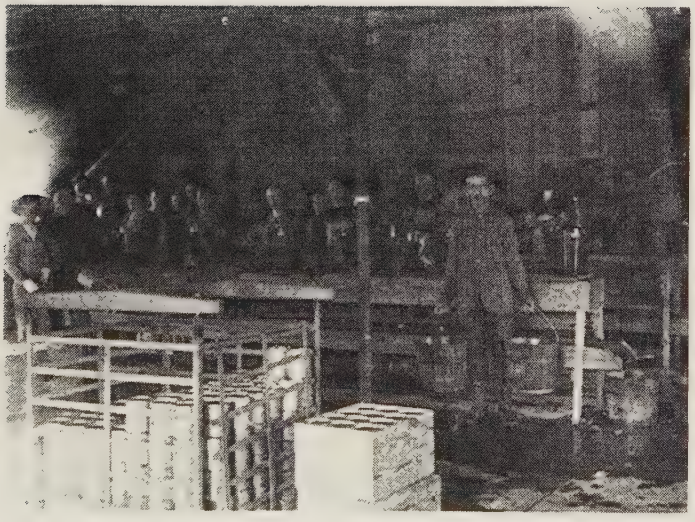
GLEN KARN

IN GERMAN TOWNSHIP

Scale 200 feet to 1 inch.



1910 Glen Karn



Sanitary Packing Hands, Glen Karn, O. (1908 post card)

Court Koontz Store

Glen Karn looking north.

1930), German (started between 1832-43 and later changed to Palestine), Tampico (started between 1843-57 and discontinued 1876), Long (started between 1873-91 and discontinued by 1930).

Noggle P.O. was located at Clark's Station sometime between 1891-1930.

Darke P.O. began after 1843 and shows up at Colonia on the 1857 plat of Washington township. By 1875, Darke is located at Sharpeye, then on the 1888 plat at Nashville. Sharpeye was later known as Sharpeye P.O. but discontinued by 1930. Sometime between 1843 and 1857, Darke County had a post office known as West Nashville. Perhaps this was at Nashville. Earlier there was a post office known as Chenowiths which may have been in section 32 of Washington township where T.F. Chenoweth lived. This post office was discontinued in 1839.

Republican P.O. was in southwestern German township before 1839. The *History of Darke County,* page 562, informs us, "At first the village (Hollansburg) was designated 'Republican P.O.' as the postoffice of that name was transferred from section 29, German township, to the new village in 1839, and William Hollaman made postmaster." This P.O. in German township may have been at the intersection of Hollansburg-Tampico Road and Weaver Station-Sampson Road, near the Dobson schoolhouse. Hollansburg was still referred to a Republican in the 1860 census.

Concordia P.O. existed in Darke County from between 1832-43 up until it was changed to Wiley Station P.O. sometime after 1857. Wiley Station was changed to Wiley P.O. after 1873. Wiley P.O. at section 28 in Harrison township was discontinued in 1904.

Other early Darke county post offices whose locations are unknown, but may have been in our area are Seven Mile Prairie (existing between 1832-43 and discontinued 1863), and Harrison (existing sometime between 1857 and 1873). Otwell Mills P.O. was at Weaver Station, and changed to Weaver Station P.O. 1868. Glen Karn P.O. began after 1884 and was discontinued 1933.

"Fort Jefferson and vicinity's first mail was by horseback from Cincinnati via Hamilton, Eaton to Ft. Jefferson, thence to Fort Recovery. The wirer (J.E. North) has a receipt for the price paid for a night's lodging near Fort Jefferson by a goverment carrier."

"Later mail was carried by horse and cart from Greenville to Bakers, Palestine, Hollansburg, New Madison, Fort Jefferson and back to Greenville.

"Before the days when automobiles became the accepted mode of travel, the daily mail was carried to the patrons of the rural routes in horse and wagons.

"The change to the automobile was not made until after 1910, following the building of the new postoffice on the public square (Greenville).

"Every morning the wagons would line up on E. Fourth street. They were box like affairs and in the winter time some of the carriers would have small stoves, in which coal was burned, to keep them warm.

"Covering a route in the horse and wagon days was an all day affair. They would start out about eight o'clock in the morning.

"Then one day an adventurous carrier brought down his automobile to do the route and there was a great wonderment and astonishment when he reported back at the post office at noon, having covered the route in about half the time it took formerly." (1933 "Greenville Advocate")

Frank Baker and Ira Edger both recall that mail used to be loaded at Greenville then to Baker then Palestine then to Nashville then to Sharpeye, returning again to Greenville.

Noah Warvel recalls Joe Williams who used to drive horse and buggy mail route out of Union City down to Sharpeye about 1912. Then Williams bought an old red coop auto with canvas top.

Greenville Democrat April 1900 - "Two rural free mail delivery routes have been established here effective May 16. Number 1 extends south along the Fort Jefferson pike to Bishop's residence - thence over past the infirmary to the Robeson neighborhood, thence to Sampson, Matchetts Corner, Beech Grove, returning by way of Fort Jefferson and Bakers, a distance of 25 miles. This route will be attended by Jos. W. Creager. Number 2 goes to New Harrison and Gettysburg, thence south..."

Newspaper Communities

There were other communities that may not have been villages or even communities except for some self-appointed columnist who needed a handle to identify the area for the newspaper columns that were prevelent around the turn of the century. Below are some of these early columns that identify these ephemeral communities.

Angling Ave. - This column in a 1911 paper passed some local news of those on the Anglin Road, (Hollansburg-Palestine Road).

"Frank Hiatt and family entertained company Sunday. O.E. Stapleton shredded fodder for D.L. Roberts the first of the week. S.D. Chenoweth and family of Glen Karn visited at Palestine Sunday. V.O. Karns and J.P. Morgan of New Madison were seen on our street Sunday. Reason Ketring and family entertained company from Brinley Station Saturday and Sunday. Walter Harrison of near Whitewater, Ind., made his usual visit in our burg Saturday evening. Several from our burg attended church at Hollansburg Sunday evening. A fine sermon is reported. Albert Mansfield of Greenville was in our burg Wednesday of last week helping to shred fodder on his farm. Basil Ketring made his usual visit over east Sunday evening. Wonder what time he got home."

Baker - This appeared as a correspondence journal in an 1894 paper. "S. Kerst will farm J. Baker's place this year. John Lutz of Deerfield, Ind., visited friends and relatives here last Sunday. Bill Haners moved to New Madison Friday. Mich Howard passed through our place one day last week, moving to Eaton. The Dunkards are holding quite an interesting meeting at the West Branch Church. Rev. Ludwich of Greenville preached at Zion Sunday afternoon. David Weaver is out and about. John Miller of Salem, O., visited relatives in this vicinity last week. Mrs. Able Haines visited Mrs. Tempa Lutz at Deerfield, Ind., last Monday and Tuesday. Frank Crumerine is doing business at Wabash, Ind. Jacob Henning had a turkey match last Thursday. 'Pete' of Boston, please help yourself to the saurkraut dumplings, and pass 'em this way'. Be careful and leave some for us, 'Pete'."

Boston - The *Greenville Democrat* had the following correspondence of Zion corner; it's an 1892 edition.

"Another wedding soon. Dave Weaver and Chas. Woods are at home for a short rest, etc. Some corn was planted last week. Alvin Kerst is attending commercial school at Richmond, Ind. Henry Sarf has purchased David Woods' farm Mr. Woods will move to Montgomery County. Misses Minnie and Lou Sentman of New Madison visited in this place Sunday. There is considerable surface gas in the community which if collected into a receiver would illuminate the town About thirty head of cattle are herded in this vicinity, divided among the following boys: Hicks, 9 head; Brown, 8 head; Curt Lindermood, 7; Sam L., 6 head. There was a good attendance at the S.S. Convention of Neave Twp., that met in the Mt. Zion church, Sunday evening; the next meeting will be held in August at Zion."

Boston Corner - (1923) "The weather sure is damp enough here at this writing. Mrs. Margaret Knoll remains quite poorly at this writing. Roy Miller and family called on Chalmer Kenworthy and family Sunday afternoon. Our citizens have been hunting mushrooms during this damp weather and some of them report some awful finds. Hugh Marker sold some hogs and a calf to Irvin Reck Wednesday. Roy Vance made a business trip to Greenville Tuesday. Ira Edger had a little misfortune Monday in getting his left hand bruised up considerably working on a machine. Chalmer Reigle called on the garage Wednesday. Clyde Reigle sold some hogs to Albert Harter of New Madison one day last week."

Windy Corner - (1911) "J.B. Cool visited Sunday. Flossy Manuel visited Sunday. J.W. Brenner and wife visited Sunday. Hazel Ross attended the Eaton Fair last week. Fred Hiatt went to the cider mill last Friday. It was some windy on the Corner last Sunday. Farmers are very busy seeding at this writing. Ruth James was in Nashville Saturday evening. Ira Baker and family entertained company Sunday. Jim Burns and wife passed through this Corner Sunday. Earl Arnett, was seen going through the Corner Sunday evening. Arthur Kerns spent Sunday afternoon with Henry Aukerman. Milton Keener of Palestine visited Walter Tejan and family Sunday. Web Manuel of West Windy Corner made a business trip last Friday morning. Orville Jefferis and lady friend Ada Wilcox passed through this Corner Sunday evening."

Zion's Corner - (1910) "Henry Sellman's entertained company Sunday. Ed Wagner and family entertained company Sunday. Chas. Hollinger spent Thanksgiving with his parents. Henry Sellman and family were visiting Thursday. Manuel Hepner did shopping in Greenville Saturday. Harry Hollinger was a Greenville visiter Saturday evening. Virgil Boli and wife called upon Ed. Boli and family Friday. Some of the farmers of our corner have finished husking corn. Mrs. Henry Tejan spent Thanksgiving Day with relatives in Dayton. Wm. Hittle and wife of Savona spent Sunday with Chas. Hittle and family. Herschel Wagner and family entertained at dinner Thursday Ed Hanes and family, Mat Wagner and family, Miss Treva Stephens and Andy Baird

and wife."

Wild Cat Road - (1924) "Mrs. Laura Young was a visitor in this neighborhood Saturday. The roads in this vicinity are in a bad condition and getting worse the more they are traveled. Herbert Light and wife visited Ora Bowers and family Sunday. Lon Judy and wife visited their daughter Mary at Delaware Saturday. Mrs. Ora Bowers who returned one day last week from Greenville Hospital is recovering slowly from a recent operation. The farmers who haven't their tobacco all stripped are wishing for warm damp weather as the past intense cold weather was unfavorable to stripping and handling the weed. Ralph Johnson and wife entertained Clarence, Jess and Flossie Linnin and Maude Bortner and mother, Friday night. A little son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Resor Monday morning which died a few hours later. Mr. Murphy an aged resident and father of Mrs. Carr Lennin is very poorly."

Wildcat Jungles - "Many 'followers' of 'Izaak Walton' are along our creek banks daily. Much of the corn planting has been finished here in the Jungles. Mrs. B.F. Sharp, who has been ill the past three weeks, is in a very critical condition. Misses Adah Fox and Hazel Weaver were out motoring Sunday afternoon. Miss Ethel Replogle of Marion, Ind., was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. George Rogers Saturday and Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Cloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Wes. Hovatter, Carrie and Garrison King of near Palestine, spent Sunday with Arthur Kershner and family. Jim Snyder and son David, spent Saturday and Sunday in Winchester, Ind. Roy Rogers made his usual trip to Eldorado Sunday evening. Phil Rogers and John King Jr., attended the annual conference at Mexico, Ind., this week. J.N. Garrison visited his brother in Muncie, Ind. Sunday, who is critically ill."

Sassafras College - (1894) "The convention at Fairview was well attended. Fred. Frank's youngest child has been quite sick. Joseph Harter and wife, and Etta Moin and children were the guests of Fogles one day last week. Eva Stingley made a flying trip to our vicinity last Thursday. Mrs. Arnold was the guest of Henry Stingley a part of last week. Wm. Kester of Palestine was in our place on business one day last week. Elsie Harding of Palestine was the guest of Alma Jeffries Sunday. Sallie Armacost of Turkey Center and Clara Stephens of Hominy Station were the guests of Minnie Fogle Saturday and Sunday. The girls took in the convention all right. Rev. Blackford took dinner with Joshua Jeffries Sunday. Henry Mills and wife spent Sunday in Greenville."

Pedro Center - (1893) "Cold weather and lots of ice. I will endeavor to locate this place for 'The Student' of Beecher, as near as possible, as I think he must be an entire stranger to the place. It is north of New Madison, south of Baker's Store, east of the beautiful lake and west of Tecumseh. For further instructions call and see us. Born, to Mr. and Mrs. S.T. Mikesell, a 14 pound boy. Popcorn party at E.V. Schlecty's Saturday night. The corn was popped and eaten; after this the crowd was entertained by music of the fiddle. Married, at the residence of M. Hollinger, Mr. Frank Valentine and Miss Mollie Noggle. The infare dinner was at the bride's father's Wm. Noggle, Sunday, and quite a number attended."

Peaceful Valley - (1912) "Corn plowing and tobacco setting is on in our Valley. Miss Nellie Andrews is at home this week. Mrs. Mann of near Spartensburg, Ind., spent Saturday evening and Sunday with her parents, Chas. Andrews. Wilbur Homan passed through our village last Thursday evening in his car, en route to Union City. He was accompanied by Ben Coal and family. A.J. Newton was seen going north last Thursday evening and told to hurry up as he was a little slow. If there is anyone sick in the neighborhood and the doctor is needed, send Herbert Thorp after him. Orlando Harter and family took dinner with Frank Baddy and wife Sunday. John Wright of Kansas is here on a visit to his brother Wesley Wright. F.P. Ware and A.J. Newton went to Greenville to the tabernacle meeting Sunday evening. Work has been started on the new school house at Kokomo."

Oakview - (1923) "Mr. Mills lost a very good horse with blood poison last week. Mr. and Mrs. Isenhour of Nashville, called on Mr. Runner and family Thursday. Will Harter and wife were in Sharpeye on business last week. Most everyone of the View are through setting tobacco now. Ira Baker and family, Mrs. Ross and sons were in Greenville Friday afternoon. Will Hershey and wife called on Will Harter and family last Thursday evening. Forest Mills and wife visited Carl Mills and family of Brock Thursday, and little Betty came home with them for a few days. Dave Wise and family passed through the View Sunday evening. Lloyd Poling and wife were in our View last Friday evening. Chalmer Harter and family visited with Charles Anderson of near Gettysburg, Sunday."

Oak Hill - (1911, Harrison twp.) "P. Downing butchered last Thursday. James Downing killed some fine porkers Monday. Nora Heironimous will soon locate in Richmond, Ind. Roy and Shep Lantz called on Sam Downing and family Sunday. Will Hathaway and family took Sunday dinner at New Madison. Our school is doing fine with Walter Downing on the front seat. Mrs. Wm. Smith of Braffitsville called on Virgil Martin and family Sunday. John H. Spencer has sold his farm east of Hollansburg to a Mr. Chenroweth. Charley Hathaway will follow the gray team for father Martin this summer again. Will Hathaway will soon move one mile south of Coletown on the Aaron Kerst farm. Young Wolfall's horse started to run off last week and rolled in the ditch. No one hurt. Adam Wolfall and wife and daughter Mary attended Sunday school at Hollansburg last Sunday."

Shipokes Villa - (1911) "We are all busy plowing corn. Jesse Ross was in the Villa Wednesday evening. Earl Hays is helping Clarence Woods plow corn. You can now see a new wire fence in front of Ed Cloyd's house. Hoy Kester butchered a fine beef at Virgil Ware's Monday afternoon. Miss Goldie Koons has been working for Charlie Koons the last couple weeks. Some one said that she lost her 'kissing bug'. Now we wonder who that 'bug' was. Alba Hill and Arthur King of New Madison were among the 'Shipokes' Sunday evening. Chester Arnett of Palestine was visiting Miss Ruby Clark of this place Saturday night. Nearly the whole of the Villa were present at the Patterson Commencement held at Palestine Saturday night."

Sauerkraut - (1914) "David Burns visited his brother Elias Sunday. Roy Lantz called on E. Lantz Sunday evening. Jim Aukerman was in Greenville one day last week. Bill Faulkner and family visited his parents Tuesday afternoon. James Burns and family were shopping in Greenville Tuesday. Virgil Ware and wife motored through this vicinity Wednesday. David Burns and daughter Zelma were in Palestine Friday evening. Barney Koontz and family and Mrs. John Miller were seen going to Greenville Tuesday. Will Brown and family and Joshua Jefferis and wife visited Vern Brown and family Sunday."

Sharpeye - (1911) "R.W. Lane's baby has been sick. Mrs. Oscar Cline did some shopping here Friday. Ola Harter spent Friday forenoon with Sadie Flatter. Everybody has been attending church at Nashville. Carrie Flatter has just finished planting squash seed. Alice Bretz is visiting with her uncle at Harrisville, Ind. Morris Bryson was seen driving through our town Friday. Chas. Harnish was the guest of R.W. Lane and wife Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bretz were at Union City Sunday afternoon. Morris Bryson is working for Frank Fourman a little now and then. Jim Davis and lady friend have been attending church very regularly. Carry Flatter and wife attended church at Nashville Thursday night. The baptising was well attended Sunday morning. Eight were baptised."

Turkey Center - (1912) "John Flory is on the sick list. Chas. Reck was here Wednesday afternoon. Roscoe Lane of Sharpeye passed through here Friday. Roy Kress attended Sunday School at Nashville Sunday. Misses Barbara and Clara Flatter are on the sick list. Chas. Reck and wife passed through here Sunday. Chas. Flatter of near Greenville was seen here Monday. Mrs. John Flory called at Charles Kress' Sunday forenoon. Clarence Flatter and Don Reck went to Sharpeye Friday. Roy Kress visited the College on business Wednesday morning. Roy Kress took a photograph of the Turkey Center School Tuesday. Miss Clara Flory called on Mrs. Albert Flatter Tuesday afternoon. Roy Kress and Clarence Flatter visited the College Friday afternoon. Miss Clara Belle Flatter called on Miss Goldie Kress Sunday afternoon. Wilbur Oda, the school teacher, called on Roy Kress Wednesday evening."

Turkey Creek - "Several from our town attended the class play at Palestine Saturday night. Mr. Cecil Best and family were visiting Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. John Deeter were in Greenville Saturday. Mr. Will Smith delivered James Armacost a load of corn one day last week. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Fellers entertained company Sunday. Mrs. Will Deeter and children were visiting Sunday. James Armacost was seen going through town one day last week with a load of potatoes. Charley Bechtolt and family entertained company Sunday. A.C. Henning purchased a cow this week. He was seen delivering a truck load of cows. Mr. and Mrs. Charley Runner and sons visited with Will Smith and family Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. H.O. Rank were in Greenville Saturday."

Darke - (1893, Nashville) "Flem Lane is chief of police in the city of Nashville. Aaron Kerst visited his brother over at Baker Store last Sunday. Isaiah Crick is now a partner of Wesley Harter in the blacksmith business at Nashville. The wife of Columbus Foreman is very low with typhoid fever; recovery doubtful. Harry Wilson, son of our village merchant, had a severe attack of cholera morbus last week. James Long of Sharpeye will shortly remove to West Milton, where he is employed in a grist mill. William Wenger, Republican candidate for county commissioner, is making a good canvas. Ad. Thomas will hereafter be found at Sharpeye, conducting this blacksmith business at that place. Mrs. Susie Houpt is now taking music lessons. Will Coats and wife were visiting relatives and friends down in Miami county last week."

District No. 7 - (1915) "Miss Mary Ketring is visiting in Union City. Several from around here attended the funeral of Mrs. McCabe Tuesday. Orville Richards of New Madison was in the District on business Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hiatt spent Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hiatt. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lease visited with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Baker Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Strohaver called on Mr. and Mrs. George Strohaver Monday evening. Mr. and Mrs. John Mosier and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hiatt and family. Mr. and Mrs. Will Steinmetz of Greenville visited with Mr. and Mrs. Reason Ketring Sunday."

Dogleg - (1912, near Weavers Station) "Plenty of winter at present. Read the Advocate and get the news. Fred Bowers passed through our burg Sunday. F.P. Layer called on L.E. Rhoades Friday. F.P. Layer contemplates moving in the near future. Isaiah Crick delivered his hogs at Greenville Saturday. James Marker was seen going north Thursday morning. Ezra Heller made his usual trip to Greenville Sunday evening. Mrs. William Seman is recovering from an attack of rheumatism. Willie Crick is helping Herman Shields strip tobacco at present. L.E. Rhoades entertained Willie Harvey and Fanny Crick Sunday evening. John Rhoades and wife of near Painter Creek did shopping in Greenville Friday. Arthur Warner was seen in our midst Monday. Arthur, where is your motorcycle?"

Carahan - (1914) "Dora Simmons and family entertained company Sunday. Lloyd Glunt spent Sunday with Robert and John Skidmore. Mrs. Hazel Skidmore entertained company Friday afternoon. Clifford Carpenter and family spent Sunday with his father, P. Carpenter. Several from here were at the festival at Nashville Saturday evening. Andy Austerman and family entertained Joe Austerman and wife Sunday. P. Carpenter, who suffered a light stroke of paralysis last week, is improving. Mrs. Nellie Heck and children of near Columbus, O., were visiting in this vicinity last week. Orla Cole and wife, of Greenville, were the Sunday guests of Mrs. Eliza Cole and daughter Ida."

Clark Station - (1911) "Mrs. Frank James is on the sick list. Wm. Wilts butchered a hog Tuesday. Arie Clark is improving at this writing. Glen Boyer and wife were visiting Sunday. Dan Petry and wife were visiting Sunday. Wm. Wilt was a Greenville visitor Saturday. Loren Janes butchered a hog on Thursday. J.W. Lynch was in Palestine Saturday morning. Ira Hangen and family entertained company Thursday. Frank Dickey called on John Bollinger Sunday morning. Isaac Bollinger of Greenville visited his son John Friday. John Bollinger and son Charles were in Palestine Saturday morning. Christy Hangen of Hardscrab-

ble was hunting in this place Wednesday. Loren James and family returned home last Monday after a week's absence in the west."

Jemanica Cross Roads - (Oct. 5, 1907, near Baker) "Charles Hollinger is still engaged as the head of a surveying party near Huntington, Ind. Mrs. Anna Wagner is still a very sick woman, but she is a little better than a few days ago. Tobacco cutting is nearly a thing of the past again; corn cutting and seeding is going slow on account of the scarcity of farm hands, Pete."

Longtown - (1924) "Sister Cook has started her revival meetings at the Wesleyan church. Everybody is welcome. Mrs. Alice Bass is on the sick list. Amanda Fassett is no better at this writing. Miss Lattie Burton is visiting in New Paris, Ohio. A.M.E. social Saturday evening in basement of church. The A.M.E. Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. Emma Mason, Spartansburg, Ind., Thursday, Nov. 5. Mr. Elisha Bass attended a dance in Richmond Thursday night. Mr. Charley Holland has butchered a hog. Mr. Biga Bass and Nelson Cook were Greenville callers Wednesday. Miss Mary Epps is taking piano lessons from Mrs. Davis Hollansburg, Ohio."

Newsy Corner - (1911) "The weather is getting rather warm. Hauling gravel is the order of the day. Miss Lulu Fitzwater spent Sunday with Miss Ruth James. Harry Williams was seen at our corner Sunday evening. Miss Ruthie Cable spent Saturday night with Clara and Artie James. Elmer Cable purchased a property in Palestine. Watch out something doing. Mr. and Mrs. Deo Teaford attended the baseball game at Palestine Sunday. F. Lane, of Nashville, was seen driving through our corner Monday evening. Miss Grace Blume attended Sunday School at Nashville Sunday morning. Harve Arnett and lady friend, Miss Lulu Fitzwater, were out driving Sunday evening. Several were seen passing our corner, en route to the ball game at Palestine Sunday."

Homny Station - (1911, near Halderman school in Greenville twp.) "A.J. Warner was filling his silos last week. A.J. Warner and family motored to Bradford Sunday. Harley Dininger finished building his silo Saturday. W.J. Stephens made his usual trip to the city Saturday. C.E. Dade transacted business in Greenville Saturday. J.H. Hoover and family were in Greenville Saturday. Jacob Henning made his usual trip to Greenville Saturday. Wm. Jessip did shopping in the city of Greenville Saturday. Marvin R. Jefferis passed through the Station Saturday evening. C.E. Beichler transacted his usual business in Greenville Saturday. R.H. Halderman made 5 barrel of cider Friday, going some wasn't it? Quite a number of the Diningers were in Greenville Saturday night. Otela Pebworth of Greenville spent Sunday with W.J. Stephens and family. Omar Stephens and Guy Beichler were Greenville visitors Saturday night."

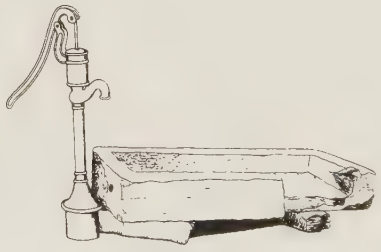
East Baker - (1911) "Henry Baker butchered Tuesday. Ira Rife of Hollansburg took dinner at Henry Baker's Sunday. Rev. J.C. Bright took dinner with Noah Baker and family Sunday. Elijah Wise called on his sister, Mrs. L. Douglas, Friday evening. H. Albright was in Greenville Saturday. Chas. Garber did shopping in Greenville Friday. L. Douglas helped Mr. Hecker strip tobacco last week. Miss Lissie Baker did shopping in Greenville Saturday morning. W.S. Albright assisted Elmer Brumbaugh with his butchering Tuesday. Miss Mary Oda and sister Carrie did shopping in Greenville Saturday. Mr. Curtis of Greenville repaired a sewing machine Monday for Mrs. Huntsinger. Mrs. J.F. Oda and son Lowell and daughter Mary called on Mrs. L. Douglas Friday afternoon. Miss Grace Baker returned home Saturday evening, after staying with her sister two weeks, Mrs. Lucy Wandle."

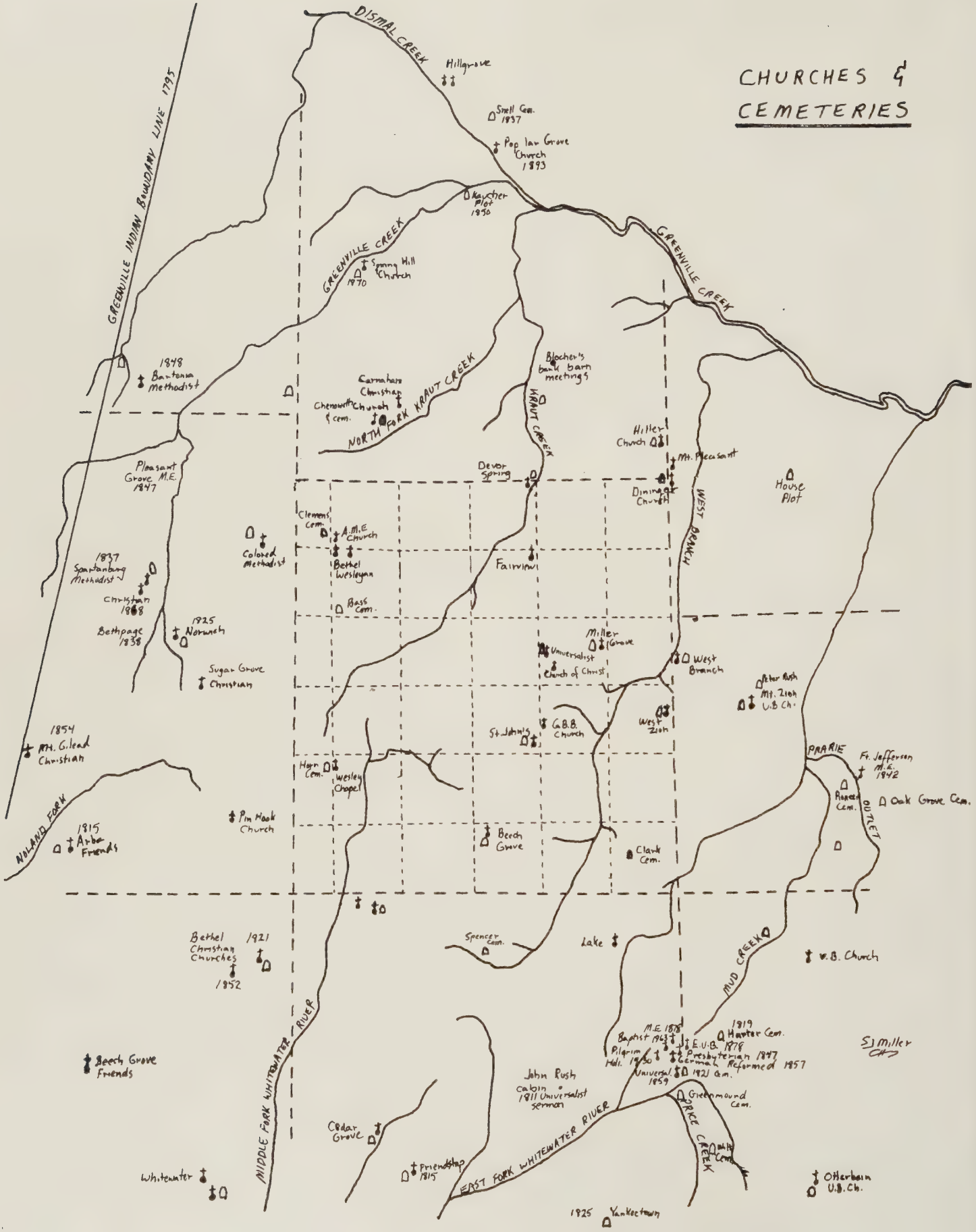
Shake-a-Rag - This little burg was between Weaver Station and Ft. Jefferson at the Cincinnati Northern Railroad. There used to be a big hotel and a restaurant there. It served as a pumping station for the railroad. Frank Baker said it got its name because this place was not a regular stop for the train, and people who wanted to board the train had to literally 'shake-a-rag' to halt the train. This earlier used to be known as Hungry Hook because of the restaurant. The land is now owned by American Aggregates.

Lake Community - Many early references are made to the lake community. A large lake used to exist on Raymond Hollinger's farm.

Turkey Hollow - Lester Hollinger thought the little vale south of his place on Palestine-Richmond Road near the Liberty/Harrison township line used to be referred to as Turkey Hollow.

Mount Pleasant - The intersection of Greenville-Nashville Road and New Madison-Coletown Road was known as Mount Pleasant because of the Mt. Pleasant church there.




CHURCHES & CEMETERIES
GREENVILLE INDIAN BOUNDARY LINE 1795
DISMAL CREEK
Hillgrove
Snell Cem. 1837
Poplar Grove Church 1893
Kaysher Plot 1950
GREENVILLE CREEK
Spring Hill Church 1870
1848 Bantonia Methodist
Carnahan Christian Church
Chenoweth cem.
NORTH FORK KRAUT CREEK
Blocher's bank barn meetings
KRAUT CREEK
Hiller Church
Mt. Pleasant
Dinninger Church
Devor Spring
Pleasant Grove M.E. 1847
Clements Cem.
A.M.E Church
Colored Methodist
Bethel Wesleyan
Fairview
1837 Spartanburg Methodist
Christian 1868
Bethpage 1838
1825 Norwich
Bass Cem.
Sugar Grove Christian
WEST BRANCH
House Plot
Miller Grove
Universalist
Church of Christ
West Branch
Peter Rush
Mt. Zion U.B. Ch.
1854 Mt. Gilead Christian
St. Johns
G.B.B. Church
West Zion
PRAIRIE
Ft. Jefferson M.E. 1842
Horn Cem.
Wesley Chapel
Pioneer Cem.
Oak Grove Cem.
OUTLET
NOLAND FORK
1815 Arba Friends
Pin Hook Church
Beech Grove
Clark Cem.
Spencer Cem.
Lake
Bethel Christian Churches 1921
1852
U.B. Church
MUD CREEK
M.E. 1878
Baptist 1963
1819 Hunter Cem.
E.U.B. 1976
Pilgrim Holi. 1960
Presbyterian 1847
German Reformed 1957
Universal. 1959
1921 Cem.
S.J. Miller Cem.
Beech Grove Friends
John Rush cabin 1811 Universalist sermon
Greenmound Cem.
PRICE CREEK
MIDDLE FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
EAST FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
Cedar Grove
Friendship 1815
Whitewater
Otterbein U.B. Ch.
1825 Yankeetown

Chapter IV
Churches & Cemeteries

St. John's Lutheran Church

Recorded information from various sources provides the history for the first church in German Township.

"The Lutherans are credited with employing the first minister, Jacob Ashley, who came monthly from Germantown, Ohio, and preached in the settlers' cabins, receiving therefor a yearly compensation of twelve dollars. This little society erected the first log church in the southeast quarter of section 22, one mile south of Palestine in 1826, and continued to worship here alone for several years. Then a Reformed congregation was organized in the same locality and in 1866 the Lutherans merged with them, Rev. John Stuck becoming the first minister under the new organization. The United organization, known as St. John's Reformed church, erected a new frame building in 1868 and worshiped here for several years, but finally disbanded."
(Source: 1914 *History of Darke County)*

Page 447 of the 1880 *History of Darke County* provides this narrative: "The first church built in this township was known as the 'St. John's' a Lutheran enterprise, erected in 1826, south of Palestine, on land owned by John Ketring. The old structure was constructed of tree trunks cut from the forest surrounding, but, in 1860, this was supplanted by a more comfortable and pretentious frame building. The old church was used by the Lutherans alone for many years, and then the German Reformed organization united with them, the two using the same church, employing the same minister, but having two separate and distinct societies, and two sets of church officers. In 1866, the latter named society re-organized, and the Lutherans from that date were merged with them."

Finally, Lorin L. Spenny, in his "History of the Early Lutheran Churches in Darke County", gives this insight of the Lutheran Church commonly known as 'Waggoner's Church': "Early settlers began moving into German Township about 1817. Their origin was Berks Co., Pa., but they had already been pioneers in and around Germantown, Montgomery County, Ohio, resettling in Darke County. Common names were Wagner (Waggoner), John, Daniel, and William; Ketring, Martin, John David; Ross - Henry and Elias; Stingley - George and J.J.; Woods - Jesse; Teaford - George. Daniel Waggoner helped build the first log church in 1826, but the deed for the land was given by John Ketring only in 1868.

"The only recognized pastor is given as the Rev. Jacob Ashley, whose name is not recognized elsewhere. He was undoubtedly itinerant, but based in Germantown. Records of the travels of the early Lutheran pasters in Preble County seem to indicate that they visited 'Wagner's Church', in Darke County, such as John Samuel Mau, Christian Espich, Lewis Morgan, Andrew Henkel, and John Jacob Gruber.

"In the course of time there seemed to be a German Reformed congregation worshipping with them, and in 1850, the group was reorganized to include Reformed, United Brethren and Christian. A first pastor after that was the Rev. John Stuck, Reformed. In 1868 they built a new imposing frame church. However, for some unknown reason about eight years after that the congregation disbanded. The building and lots were sold in 1944 and the cemetery of the first Lutheran Church in the County is all that is left."

An old church book in the possession of Kenny Ketring contains the articles of the church written in both German and English. "Therefore we the members of the German Evangelical Lutheran and High German Reformed Congregations in German township Dark County, Ohio having built a house of worship or church house adopted the following articles, as a Rule for our said congregations, and church, and we the members of the said congregations, do hereby unite and bind ourselves and our heirs to act according to the same with regard to our church affairs.

"Article 1 - The names of our said churches shall be St. Johns Church.

"Article 4th - English Preaching shall be allowed in said House yet only by those Ministers who have the charge of said congregations according to third Article."

Fourteen articles were signed 1843 by trustees: Orton Lantz, Abraham Kimmerling; and Elders: Jacob Lriminf Vitrimlfor(?); Samuel Laumon; and Deacons: Georg Wagoner and John Ketring.

Kenneth Ketring of Fairborn, Ohio contributed some early church baptism and communicant records to Anita Short, which she published in her July 1974 "Gateway to the West".

Kenny Ketring at St. John's Cemetery. The panarama overlooks sites of the original log church, Martin Ketring's farm, and old Loring Road.

The earliest baptism is Oct. 31, 1835 of the son of William W. and Elizabeth Kester. Other parents who had children baptized through the 1830's were Carl and Julyanna Losh, David Ketring, Abraham and Maria Bowman, Abraham and Hannah Cox, Lewis and Katharine Kimmerling, Wm. and Elizabeth Waggoner, Abraham and Ka. Kimmerling, Ludwick and Susanna Teford, Jacob and Elizabeth Teford, George and Molly Teford, George and Eve Kester, and Jacob and Sara Kohlman.

Communicants from 1839 to 1841 included names of Smelcher, Ketring, Kimmerling, Failor, Heighbarger, Hoossenfoois, Bowman, Lush, Waggoner, Lantz, Kester, Siniard, Slechty (Schlechty), Lintermmote, Denner, Bowers, Willcox, Butt, Bender, Nogle, and Teford.

From Vol. 51, pg. 182 - Darke Co. Recorder's Office -John Ketring to First Lutheran Church et. al.-10-17-1867. Recorded 4-14-1868. Names following churches: German Reformed, Lutheran, Christian and United Brethren. Description....commencing at N.E. corner of the Graveyard, 6 rods to Braffettsville and New Paris Turnpike....etc. containing 46 rods of E. half of S.E. qt. sec. 22, Twp. 11, Range 1E. Witnesses David Noggle and V.E. Whitmer.

The Church book lists those who helped pay for sexton in 1874: John D. Saylor, Nathaniel Koons, John Kimmerling, Jacob H. Smelker, Martin Ketring, Elias Lantz, Jno. A. Burch, W.W. Burgess, Jesse Woods, James Aukaman, Wm. Aukerman, John Ketring, G.H. Teford, G.H. Koons, Henry Smelker, B. Teford, A. Ketring, F.P. Teaford, H.C. Ketring, Squire Teaford, and two names unreadable.

St. Johns Cemetery - Located in the S.E. corner of Section 22 Liberty Twp. on Richmond-Palestine Rd. Those buried here include three Revolutionary soldiers.

"At one time the St. John's Lutheran Church stood in the front part of the cemetery and this part is now vacant and mowed yard. One of the older cemeteries of the county." (Anita Short and Ruth Bower)

Anita Short and her mother, Ruth Bowers, in their research for their Darke County Cemetery books have found a large number of very old burials: _____(?) Teford, d/o George & Magdalene d. Oct. 20, 1825, age 3 years, 8 months, 10 days. Jacob Teford, s/o George & Magdalene d. Sept. 20, 1876, age 4 years, 10 months, 10 days. Martin Ketring d. July 23, 1829, age 62 years, 9 months, 14 days. Sarah Teford d. Sept. 15, 1835, age 1 year, 3 months, 4 days. Catherine Teford b. April 24, 1828, d. Nov. 5, 1830, age 2 years, 8 months, 12 days. George Grimes d. Dec. 27, 1838, age 85 years, U.S. soldier Revolution. John Boomershine, b. Aug. 21, 1807, d. Oct. 25, 1836, age 29 years, 2 months, 4 days. (Many more buried in 1830's).

When Kenny Ketring was restoring the old cemetery in Liberty township in 1973, Colonel Orville Groendyke told Kenny where the original log structure, resting on the foundation of four boulders, stood. In the southwest corner of the cemetery are a few stones which are lined in an arc. This arc was along an old buggy drive that curved up from the old original road west of the cemetery and church, to near the church site. This west side was originally the "front" of the cemetery, and faced the rolling hills that were once filled with orchard trees of the Martin Ketring's farm. One could see Martin's log house and barn, his windmill and brick kiln. The old road, Lowring Road, went from the Anglin' Road near #7 School House, in front of the church down a vale past the Wilcox's, through a clearing in the woods and to the Sourkraut school, continuing in what is now Harrison Road. For a long time buggy ruts remained visible in the woods from this road.

Hiller Methodist Episcopal Church

"It is said that Methodist sermons were preached in Greenville as early as 1812." (W.P. Clark, "Greenville Advocate" Dec. 13, 1933)

"The first Methodist minister that visited this county was Rev. John Brown in 1817, and the year following John P. Durbin (since Corresponding Secretary of the American Missionary Society) preached on what was then known as the Eaton Circuit. It was extensive in area, embracing appointments at Camden and Eaton in Preble County, Greenville and Hiller's in Darke County, Covington in Miami County, and Union, Concord and Germantown in Montgomery County, besides parts of Wayne and Randolph in Indiana. The pioneer meeting-house of the county was erected by the Methodist society in 1818, and is yet standing

upon its original site, about four miles west of Greenville and a half-mile south of Winchester turnpike. Great pains were taken with this rude sanctuary in its construction. Its walls were of hewed logs, and the work when completed was considered excellent. The pulpit, made of rough boards, and two or three slab seats, are still in existence. The roof was originally of the old well-known cabin style, but has since been renewed and bears a more modern covering. The old house itself has been kept in such repair that it served for the accomodation of the people on funeral occasions." (1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 282)

"It was carefully and substantially constructed of hewed logs, and no doubt, had the typical clapboard roof, puncheon floor, rough board pulpit, and slab seats. It was still used on funeral occasions as late as 1880, but has since been torn down." (1914 *History of Darke County,* pg. 204)

"Mr. (Elias) Ross assisted in the erection of the first church built in the county. It was located in Washington Township on Sec. 36, and was built in 1819; It was a Methodist church and is still (1880) standing, a relic of pioneer days, though not now used." (1880 *History of Darke County,* p. 589)

"The dedicatory sermon for this old landmark of religion was preached by Rev. Durbin, and the following Presiding Elders severally held within its door their quarterly meetings: Alexander Cummins, John Strange, John Collins, J.B. Finley, John F. Wright, William H. Raper and William B. Christie. The first quarterly meeting for the Greenville Circuit of 1817 was held at Greenville in the private dwelling of John Dunn by Elder Moses Crume. Rev. Durbin preached at the house of A. Scribner and his teaching seems to have been salutary in its effect upon the community. Soon the limits of the circuit were diminished and regular preaching was discontinued until 1833, although during this interval, sermons were occasionally delivered at the court house, dwelling-houses, and such other places as could be procured for that purpose. The want of houses of worship gave rise to the custom of holding camp-meetings and other religious assemblages in the open air, sometimes the good results were conterbalanced by the rowdying ruffianism that intruded itself." (1880 *History of Darke County,* p. 282)

"The Hiller and Livengood Class, the first formed in the county, was organized in this Church in 1818." (W.P. Clark "Greenville Advocate" Dec. 13, 1933)

The Darke County deed books show that John and Eliza Cox sold land in section 36 to the trustees of the West Branch Society for the purpose of building a meeting house, school house and graveyard, on January 27, 1821. The trustees were: John Hiller, John Chenoweth, Jared Barnes, and John Fowler. (Deed book A-1-186)

"Dec. 13, 1828, John Cox and Eliza (mark) wife of Washington twp. DCO to John Chenoweth, Peter Livingood, Henry Ross, Joseph Dixon and John Ruple, trustees in Trust of M.E. Church; $1, 3/4 a pt. of fractional S36 T12 R1 in Washington twp.; 'in trust that they shall erect and build or cause to be erected thereon a house or place of worship for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church'. Wit John S. Hiller, Samuel P. Thow" Recorded Dec. 20, 1830. (Anita Short, Deed book abstracts, Deed book C-1-466)

"Dec. 13, 1828 - John Chenoweth, Peter Livengood, and Jared Barnes Trustees of West Branch Methodist Society to John Cox of DCO $10; beginning about middle S36 T12 R1 then running north thence west thence north containing 1 a. Wit: Archibald Bryson, John S. Hiller. Recorded Dec. 20, 1820." (Anita Short, Deed book abstracts, Deed book C-1-468)

Hiller Cemetery - The oldest burial in the cemetery according to Anita Short and Ruth Bower's *Darke County Cemetery Records* is J. Wolf, Oct. 28, 1821 (hand engraved black slate stone).

Names in this cemetery include: Cox, Martin, Dicson, Bryson, Rush, Stingley, Parent, Arnold, Death, Elston, Fox, Harris, McKee, Mills, Walk, Masion, Williamson, Young, Perkins, Snyder, Diveley, Hiller, McCan, and Kester.

Zion Lutheran & West Zion Reformed

"This church probably the third church structure erected in the township, in the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 24 along the east township line on the farm now owned by E.T. Wagner. Like St. John's church, this afterwards passed to the Reformed society and is now known as West Zion." (1914 *History of Darke County*)

"Again these settlers seem to have a relationship to folks in Montgomery County, Ohio. Common names are Michael Lindemoth, Samuel and John Bowman, Henry Beachler, Samuel Kerst, William and David Waggoner. A log church was built on the farm of William Wagner and was surfaced with 'Pebble Dash' or 'stucco'. Again, seemingly there were many who were German Reformed in confession and as of 1856 the Lutherans sold out their half interest in the property and disbanded. Those desiring Lutheran services were transferred to the 'Dininger Church' " Lewis Grote source, Garst Museum notes). Lewis Grote also dates the Zion Lutheran Church from 1830 to 1856.

William Wagoner sold to Michael Lindmoot, Samuel Bowman, John Bowman trustees of Zion Church, land in the S.E. corner of N.E. ¼ of Section 24, German township, February 22, 1845. (Deed book 0-1-590)

The German Reformed Church may have been sharing the building in 1853.

On 11-15-1856, the First trustees, Michael Lintamoot, Samuel Bowman, and John Bowman sold to the second trustees Daniel Wagoner, Henry Beachler, and Samuel Kerst the undivided half of 112 rods of S.E. pt. of N.E. qt. sec. 24 township 11. (Deed book E-2-129)

Pastors of West Zion have included: R. Good, J.D. Colliflower, J. Voght, L.J. Barkly, Wm. McCaughey, S.M. Kerchuch, Jesse Stiner, Soloman Reaur, J.E. Dingledine, R.B. Richard, G.V. Walker, G.L. Runkle, S.V. Snyder, O.L. Hunt, George F. Zinn 1905-07, D.E. Warner 1908-1909, Ward Hartman 1909, Emerson Tobias 1911-1912, S.V. Rohrbaugh 1913-1916, Albert S. Glessner 1916. (Garst Museum records)

Organized May 17, 1846. Closed Jan. 29, 1967 with Rev. Adams. The burial ground was deeded to the township trustees 1945.

Mr. Edward T. Wagner wrote the following history on the West Zion Reformed church:

"In section 24 of Liberty Twp. is located one of the first churches of Darke Co. The fact that it is a part of the old 'Wagner Homestead' is of some interest.

"My great grandfather, John Waggoner, as it was spelled, brought his large family to this wilderness home in 1816, as a squatter. Being interested in the church he later gave 3/4 of an acre of ground to be used as a building site and burial ground. Some time ago it was my privilege to look over one of the old records written in my own hand writing which prompted me to write this sketch..

"I am thinking that it might be of special interest to the younger people of the community to learn something of the early history of the church. I do not claim to be pioneer enough to remember a lot about the early history, even though I have spent some time in a 'trunnelbed'. At least what I have heard my ancestors tell about the 'old log church' should be of some interest.

"I doubt if there is any one in the community of the little church that even remembers the old log church except Chas. Edger who still lives near by.

"As a small boy I remember going with my parents and older brothers and sisters, and those early years left a very lasting impression which has helped me remember what it looked like.

"We can't be exactly certain as to the exact date of the erection of the first church, but we do know that the St. John's church south of Palestine was built in 1826, and some of the older citizens said that the W. Zion church was built a few years later, which leads us to believe that it was built about 1830, or possibly a little later, and in this we might be mistaken. We would like to show you a picture of the 'old log church' and we have searched in vain but it seems that none can be found. So the least we can do is to paint for you a word picture from memory.

Of course it was built of logs, the very best of oak and walnut, of which there was plenty near by. It was not as large as the present church, the exact dimensions I would not venture to give. There was a double door in the east and three windows on either side protected by wooden shutters. The roof was made of clabboards split from native timber. There was a belfrey on the east end and that housed the bell very much as the present one only not so large. The building was lathed on the outside with lath split from native timber. Then it was plastered on the outside. Now we would call it stucco, then it was called pebble dash, which meant that small stones was dashed on the plastering before it was dry to make it last.

"There was just one aisle in the church which led in front to the pulpit. A large box stove in the center, with a drum on top, gave plenty of heat. The pulpit was rather high with steps leading up on the other side, which gave the impression that the preacher was high above his hearers.

"I especially remember that communion table in front of the pulpit that contained the hymn books, testaments and other supplies.

"In passing I might say that there were no uniform lesson helps and the adults studied the testament and the children read stories of animals, birds, flowers, etc. One of the important occasions that I remember in the old church was the funeral of Grand Mother Wagner in 1879. As a small boy of a few years I remember the long procession of wagons, spring wagons and the like winding their way north from the old home and south through the woods to the Twp. line road that ran past the church that I have described. So much for the church building.

"The organization was of more importance. Very likel religious services were held in the homes, as most of the early settlers were religious folks, until the church was built. I might be of interest to say that the early church was know as the Reformed and Lutheran church as many from th Dininger community attended services here for many years No doubt the only means of getting to the church was b wagons, or on horse back and likely walking was the bes over the old trails. About the time the church was built, m great grandfather decided to return to his native state o Pennsylvania to dispose of some land, but he was neve heard of again and very likely was killed by the Indians. Bu the great grandmother remained at home and reared he family of 10 children and lived until 1858, when she passe away at the age of 88 and was laid to rest in the little churc cemetery on the corner of the farm. So another generatio came into being, and with it came new responsibilities Likewise each succeeding generation demanded new and im proved conditions. Surveys had been made and line established, better roads were in the making. The wagon and spring wagons were being replaced with carriages and buggies. The timber was fast disappearing, the swamps were being drained, in fact the entire community was taking on a different appearance. So in 1881 it was decided that the 'old log church' was not good enough for the growing needs of the community.

"Well do I remember the dismantling of the old church. The old logs were piled out of the way to be used as firewood for the new church. Soon funds and material were provided for a new church. It was midsummer of 1881 that the cornerstone was laid. This was an unusual occasion and as I recall a large crowd gathered to witness the ceremony. The speakers stand was erected out near the road and new lumber was used for seating. As a small lad I remember how a crowd of us boys climbed up high on a pile of lumber to witness the placing of certain articles in the copper box that soon would have its final resting place in the corner stone.

"It was late fall when the church was dedicated with due ceremony. Special services were held for several weeks of which we called 'Revival Meetings'.

"My grandfather, William Wagner, passed away two years after the church was built, and he too was laid away beside the grandmother. My father and mother had come in possession of the old farm and for many years played an important part in the affairs of the little church. You possibly have noticed that we have said little about the denomination of the church. We still contend that it is of little importance to stress denomination. May it always be said that the doors of the little church are open to all of the community regardless of creed or doctrines. Our story is getting too long but we wish to add that the W. Zion church will always remain as a 'Light House' to all who come to worship."

E.T. Wagner

From family history of Wagners by E.T. Wagner the following can be added:

"Being interested in a church, William at once (after buying homestead) gave an acre of land on the corner of the farm for a building site for a church and cemetery. Religious services had been held in the various homes on the Sabbath, and by now a sufficient number of settlers had come to the community so it was decided to build a church. From far

away they became interested regardless of creed or denomination.

"The Wagners were members of the Reform Church, but folks from the Dininger settlement who were Lutheran were quite anxious to help. A church had been built south of Palestine in 1826, and we are told that the one on the corner of the old farm was built a few years later which we think was about 1830. This church was called 'Zion Reformed and Lutheran' for many years.

"In passing I must tell you that the Great Grandmother, Mary Ann, passed away in 1857 at the age of 88 years, and was laid to rest in the little church cemetery that her son William had provided. As far as we are able to ascertain that was the first adult burial in the cemetery, that we have mentioned."

West Zion Cemetery - The oldest burials are Catharine Bowman, daughter of J. & C. Bowman, who died Jan. 31, 1840, aged 6 years, 11 months, 22 days; and James Carpenter who died March 25, 1847, aged 51 years, veteran of War of 1812. (*Darke County Cemetery Records,* Anita Short and Ruth Bowers)

Emanual (Dininger) Lutheran Church

"By 1839 German-speaking Lutheran settlers living directly west of Greenville, Ohio, felt the need of a church and set up an organization with Samuel Heyme, Henry Noll and Tobias Stiver as trustees. On January 1, 1839, they obtained 3/4 of an acre of land from Abraham and Hannah Cox, in the northeast corner of German Township for a burial ground. Then on July 6 of that year they obtained 1/4 of an acre from Jacob and Cathering Henning in the southeast corner of Washington Township for a building lot. The two pieces of land adjoined one another. Deeds were finally obtained in 1875.

"It is thought by some that since many of the settlers, originally from Pennsylvania, had been living near Germantown, Ohio, and were part of Emmanuel Church there, that that is the reason for their naming their Darke County congregation Emmanuel Lutheran Church. However, since the Dininger name came to be important in the membership, through the years it was called the Dininger Church, and now the Dininger Cemetery.

"There are no records beyond court deeds of this old church. A log meeting house was built on the northern part of the lot. The early years gave no hint of the names of the pastors who served them. By 1867 a congregational meeting was called to accept a new constitution, and, a second one to call their own pastor. So, beginning in 1866 we know the pastors' names: J.O. Hoffman, 1866-1867 (with churches at Brock, Gettysburg and Versailles); M.H. Hockman (with Brock and Versailles), 1867-1869; C.H. Althoff, 1871-1880; C.H. Mayer, 1880-1904; William Benzin, 1904-1906. (The last three also served St. John's Church, Greenville)." ("History of Early Lutheran Ch;urches in Darke County" Lorin L. Spenny, originally Lewis Grote)

The following communed November 8, 1865: Jacob Dininger Sr., Margaret Dininger, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Heffner, Sarah Heffner, Cath Heim, Lucinda Stephens, Jonah Dininger, Lewis Dininger, Michael W. Deininger, Jacob Dininger Jr., Samuel Hein, Jacob Coleman, John Stephens.

1867 baptisms according to the church record of Emanuel's Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church were: Hefner, Dininger, Shade, Wagoner, Cunningham, Buechler, Lindamood, Henning, Carnahan, Stephens, McClure, and Buckwalter.

Names showing up on April 25, 1869 records were: Henry Wagoner and Elizabeth, John Noll, William and Mary Lindemood, Abraham R. Shade, Elizabeth Buechler, Michael Judy and Catherine Fall. Other early names include Weaver, Lolt, Coleman, Buchwalter, Black, Smith, Maurer, Pebworth, and Miley.

The 1900 *Biographies of Darke County,* pgs. 346-348, offers the following information on Charles H. Mayer, Lutheran minister:

"In 1880 he received a joint call from the Evangelical Lutheran (St. John's) congregation, two and a half miles northeast of Greenville, and the Dininger congregation, four miles west of Greenville.

"For the last twenty years Mr. Mayer has untiringly devoted himself to building up the St. John's and Dininger congregations.

"Its (St. Johns') communicants number between two hundred and fifty and three hundred, while the Dininger congregation has about fifty communicants. The service at St. John's are in German; at Dininger, in English. Both are practically free from debt."

It was probably during Rev. Mayer's service that the brick house of worship was built as the 1875 plat shows the log church still in use.

"Emmanuel Church disbanded in 1906, but Pastor Benzin was active in the organization of Grace Church, Greenville, in 1911, and members of Emmanuel, along with their church records were incorporated in Grace Church." (Lewis Grote, Lorin L. Spenny)

Nellie Fowble recalls that after this church disbanded some members took letters to the 4th Street German Lutheran Church, but their letters weren't accepted, so they then started the Grace Lutheran. Some members changed to Wakefield Church.

From a treasury book of the Emanual Lutheran Church dated March 1905 the following names are mentioned: Will Smith, George Coleman, John Dininger, Charles Henning, Lewis Dininger, Jacob Dininger.

The minister was Rev. Benzin. The treasury book includes collections taken Dec. 6 and Dec. 20, 1908 of 60¢ and 72¢ for example. Sept. 23, 1909, the collection was 75¢, then the next and final entry of the book was listed "Last collection 7¢".

Dininger Church after 1920 tornado removed roof.

Clarabella Fellers thought the bell from the Dininger church was taken to the Grace Lutheran Church and may still be there. She also said that occasionally people would hold funeral services there even after the services ceased.

The tornado of 1920 took the roof and damaged the brick church as shown in the picture loaned by Earl and Mary Jefferis.

Dininger Cemetery - The cemetery at one time was cared for by Greenville, Washington and Liberty townships because the cemetery is on the Washington and Liberty township lines, and the church was in the Greenville township.

Old burials in the cemetery include: Christian Dininger who died March 2, 1839, aged 6 months, 14 days; and Magdalena Null, wife of W.B. Null, who died Sept. 21, 1841, aged 24 years, 11 months, 17 days. (Short & Bowers)

"The cemetery has names like: Heffner, Dininger, Henning, Shade, Miller, Lindemuth, Null, Waggoner, Frank, Stephens, Coleman, Beghart, and Grote." (Lewis Grote, Lorin L. Spenny)

Mount Pleasant German Reformed Church

This church at the southeast corner of the intersection of Coletown-New Madison Road and Greenville-Nashville Road found itself located between the Hiller Methodist Episcopal Church to the north and the Dininger Emanuel Church to the south.

Little is known of this church, but perhaps its beginnings were in the German Reform Presbyterian Church which probably shared a log meeting house with Dininger Lutheran Church in 1839.

Abraham and Hannah Cox sold to Samuel Hyme, Henry Null, Tobias Stiver trustees of Lutheran Church and German Reform Presbyterian Church in vicinity, 3/4 acre of N.E. corner of section 1, twp. 11 R1E bounded beginning at N.E...."for use of meeting house to be erected by said churches." Jan. 1, 1839. (Deed book N-1-210)

Jacob and Catherine Henning sold to Samuel Hyme, Henry Null, and Tobias Stiver trustees of the Lutheran Church and German Reformed Presbyterian churches, 1/4 acre out of the S.E. corner of sec. 36 twp. 12 R1E. for meeting house to be erected by said churches and also for a burying ground. July 6, 1839. (Deed book N-1-210)

Apparently both churches felt a need to build brick churches as the Dininger Church built a brick house across the road in Greenville twp., and a brick house for the German Reformed Church was built at the corner. The cornerstone from the brick church is now in the possession of Mary Jefferis, and indicates the Mt. Pleasant Church was built in 1860.

Samuel and Ellan Bechtolt sold to Samuel Bechtolt and Jacob Cox consistories of German Reform Church Mount Pleasant land beginning at west section line section 31 of twp. 12 R2E, at point where said section crossed by Greenville Road thence running east along south line of said Greenville and Nashville Rd. Feb. 15, 1860. (K-2-125)

Some hint to the dispersion of this church is found in the recorder's office in deed records volume 84, page 165, Jerry Runkel Sheriff Darke County to the Old German Baptist Church. Plats list this church as a "Dunkard Church" and these records refer to it as the "Old German Baptist Church". "Wereas Samuel Bechtolt did by judgement of court of Common Pleas of Darke County, Oct. 10, 1881, recover a judgement against Jacob Henning et al for reasons that the church referred to in the Petition has long since been abandoned as a place of worship ordered that sheriff should cause lands and tenements to be appraised, advertised, and sold."

Although this only gives a vague idea of when the church disbanded, the physical structure remained until the tornado of 1920 flattened it to the earth. Bricks and materials from the church ruins were used to build the existing porch of Earl and Mary Jefferis.

Nashville United Brethren Church

Began as the Pleasant Grove United Brethren then changed its name to the Nashville U.B. Church. The United Brethren denomination has also changed its names with mergers, becoming first the Evangelical United Brethren (E.U.B.), then the United Methodists.

The society was formed January 14, 1857, and meetings were held in a private house, located on the southwest quarter of section 3, for two years, when room was supplied by the construction of the present church ediface." (pg. 448, 1880 *History of Darke County*) A look at the 1857 plat shows those living in the southwest quarter of section 3 to be J. Ross, I. Miller, W. Heck, and J. Heck. An old school house was also in this quarter section.

Feb. 9, 1857 Levi Cunningham sold to Trustees of the U.B. Church, Elias Ross, Frederick Houpt, and Isaac Miller land in the northeast corner of section 3, twp. 11, R1E, going south along section line 16 rods, west 10 rods, north 16 rods, and east 10 rods, containing 1 acre. "Upon this condition that said lot is for the purpose of building a house of worship upon and that all religious denominations shall have right to worship in said house when not occupied by said United Brethren in Christ."

To commemorate its 100th anniversary, the Nashville E.U.B. church put together a small history November 17, 1957. From the program:

"Nashville, then called Pleasant Grove, was organized in 1857 by the Reverend Jacob M. Marshall. Elias Ross was the

Nashville Church

The picture of the original Nashville Church was taken about 1895. Note the two front doors, window shutters, wooden shingles, low-pitched roof, and belfrey, and stucco siding. The belfry was used by Buddy Hinklelein to build an outhouse.

The identity of these church members according to the back of a picture in the possession of Thurman and Edith House is:

Bottom row: Wess Harter, John Crick, Harry Willson, Ethel Willson, Iona Young, Ana Young, Chenoweth, Sara Harter, Jim Long, Harry Harter, Mandy Shinkle, Harding, Jim Long, Coy Fernsler, Erma Harter, Ollie Longnecker, Manda Shiple, Chenoweth, Ivy Norris, Gee Norris, John Norris, Glen Lane, Jess Ran, unknown, Rando Harter.

Second row: Clarence Snyder, Gona Yong, Josie Shimple, Harding, Sylvia Wengen, May Baker, Allie Young, May Harter, Pearl McKaun, Eco Stoner, Blanch Armacost, Nora Jefferis, Elsa Harter, Lucy Noll, Lilly Harter, Laurence Jefferis, Rosco Lane, Harry Fernsler, Will Noll, Frank Strohaver, Charley Lane, Elmer Gytle.

Third row: Ben Cole, Tillie Saylor, Waldo Rank, Mame Long, Herschel McCabe, Laura Snyder, Myra Jefferis, Tom Shade, Etta Rank, Todd Rank, Ed Strohauer, Elsie Norris, Frank Ware, Rose Clay, Gertie Long, Stella Clay, Pearl Longnecker, Nan Noll, Edna Stoner, Ena Shinkle, Rena Beanblossom, Bill Crick, Tellia Rank, Etta Norris, Carrie Lytle, Gan Wooten, Rebecca Harter, Sarah Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Shinkle, Mr. and Mrs. W. Lytle.

Fourth row: Elmer Harter, Geo. Long, Milt Lytle, Roll Snyder, Web Snyder, Charley Lytle, Lewis Flatter, Deo Essick, Elzie Thomas, Ema Fernsler, Jock Newton, Nettie Stomes, Manda Harding, Della Lytle, Molley Cole, Jeffa Clay baby, Mr. and Mrs. Arom Clay.

Fifth row: All Harter, John Harding, Elza Lytle, Will Jefferis, Enoch Ross.

Sixth row: Elnes J. Herschel.

first steward of the church and was still serving in 1880. For two years meetings were held in private homes. In 1859 a church building was built in the northern part of German, now Liberty Township. At this time it became a part of the Mount Zion circuit.

"This building was replaced by a new one in 1899. Mr. Houpt left a gift of 500 dollars for the new building. At this time some thought was given to changing the name of the church to Houpt's Chapel. This didn't happen. Mr. John W. Noll, who owned a saw-mill near Sharpeye, Ohio, cut the lumber for the new church. His wife, Nan B. Noll, bought a name plate for the church, now in the possession of her daughter Mrs. Lucy Lindamood. This was placed at the church entrance in 1899. The dedication of the new

church was directed by the Reverend W.K. Albright.

"In 1907 the name of Pleasant Grove was changed to Nashville. From here on both names were used until Pleasant Grove faded from the records.

"In 1909 there were 22 members on the church record. This was increased to 50 in 1919 and to 57 in 1921.

"In 1946 the Nashville United Brethren Church joined in the denominational merger with the Evangelical Church to become the Nashville Evangelical United Brethren Church.

"Many advancements in the appearance of the church have taken place. On May 2, 1924, the Board voted to put electric lights in the church. They were installed by August 20, 1924. Church pews were purchased in 1943. A basement was built in 1947-48, also a furnace was installed. New stained glass windows were placed in 1954. Several other improvements, carpet, balcony, doors, walk and parking not to mention others have been added in the past few years."

Pastors have included: Jacob M. Marshall, G.L. Gilbert, J.R. Brown, J.R. Brown and D. Myer, A. Zerring, G.C. Warvel, E.H. Gaylor, P.H. Davis, H. Tobey, D.W. Downey, J. Fleenor, S. Huddle, W.K. Albright, J.D. Holtzinger, H.K. Shank, S.S. Holden, G.A. Wood, A. Dunkelberger and A. Rodabaugh, J.W. Bovey, E.E. Saul, W.R. Houlton, J.N. Beckett, S.R. Ludwig, W.H. Klindfelter, C.H. Snyder, I. Zimmerman, Karnig Kuyoomjian, B.P.S. Busey, A. Dallas Williams, J.A. Albright, A.C. Barnhardt, M.O. Stein, Virgil Mayne, A. Kissel, A.O. Ramsey, John W. Rollings, Paul B. Porter, J.A. Pantle (1925), W.J. Fos, Frank Royer (1929-42), Maurice Smith (42-45), LeRoy Ickes (1945-49), Oren Reger (1949-51), Monroe Shearer (1951-52), Paul Chastain (1952-55), Robert E. Dille (56-58), William Miller (59-61), Robert Jones (62-64), Earl Toy (64-66), Ivan Jenkins (66-72), Jeff and Jamie Miller (72-75), Byron Burke (1975-81), Jeff and Debbie Belt (1981-present).

Nashville Cemetery - The earliest burial in the cemetery is that of Eve Coble, wife of L. Coble, d. 10-18-1833, age 67 years, 3 months, 17 days.

Chenoweth Methodist Episcopal Church

The Chenoweth church in section 32 was the second church built in Washington township.

Page 443 of the 1880 History: "The next church was the Chenoweth Church, built on Section 32, at an early date, by the Methodists. It subserved the purpose of its construction, and had long since been leveled to the earth.

"We have said that not unusually services were held in the forest. The Methodist frontier camp-meetings were once an institution that could not well be dispensed with, and seemed to be a recruiting point for the M.E. Church, and a place where all met on a common level for the renewal of their spiritual strength, and to extend a general acquaintance among the brotherhood. The first meeting or encampment of this kind held anywhere in Darke or adjoining counties, so far as known, took place in Washington Township, on Section 33, in the vicinity of what was then known as Devor Spring, but what is now denominated the Houpt Farm. The date of the meeting is not remembered. In 1838-39, a Methodist camp-meeting was held on the farm of John Chenoweth, on Section 32. Of the ministers present and actively engaged, but one is recalled, and this was Rev. W.W. Jordan. The camps were built of poles, and on three sides, forming what might be termed a hollow square, with the seats between the camps, and the pulpit having a central position at one end, facing the center. The period of encampment usually lasted from ten days to two or three weeks. It is needless to say that the 'rowdies' as styled by the church people, had their full share of recreation at these assemblies."

Feb. 2, 1829, John and Elizabeth Chenoweth sold the land to the trustees of the M.E. Church in Washington twp. Jacob Chenoweth, Robert Cain, Henry Ross, Joseph Dixon, and Peter Livengood. A part of the N.W. 1/4 of section 32, Washington township, probably at the site of the Chenoweth cemetery. (Deed book Z-11-480).

Chenoweth Cemetery - This cemetery located in section 32 of Washington township, ½ mile from the north line of the section. According to Short and Bowers' work, the oldest gravestone inscription is that of Wm. A. Chenoweth who died Feb. 20, 1837 at age 14 years, 8 months, 11 days. Other Chenoweths and Perrys are also interred there.

Carnahan Christian Church

"A Brief History of Carnahan Church" from 1832 to 1932 was written by Benjamin F. Skidmore, and provides an interesting look at a very old and, in its time, successful local church.

John Carnahan moved to section 29 of Washington township in 1830 where he invited people to his house and preached. "The results were that many became obedient to the truth, and some time during the summer of 1832 an organization of the Church of Christ was effected. "They met regularly for the breaking of bread, for prayers, for fellowship and the study of the Word. Brother Carnahan was always ready to teach and to preach the things concerning the kingdom of God. Mr. and Mrs. John Carnahan, Mr. and Mrs. John Dunn, Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Skidmore, Mrs. Betsey Elston, Mrs. Sarah Rarick are named as some of the charter members.

"Brother Carnahan was a farmer, preacher and teacher, and the interest grew until the home, a log house with but one room, was too small to accomodate the gatherings. Then with the help of the neighbors, what was then considered a large barn, was erected, and the threshing floor of this was used for the meetings. The people came on foot, on horseback, and in big wagons, until the barn was filled to its capacity. During the winter of 1833-34, the barn being too cold for a comfortable meeting place, Mr. Carnahan suggested that if the men would donate their labor, that he would donate an acre of ground, the timber, the boards, and pay out all the money that was required to build a hewed log church. This they agreed to do, and in the summer of 1834, the logs were cut and hewed, the clapboards split for the roof, and before the winter came the people were called together, the house was raised and all rejoiced in their new Church Home.

"Mr. Carnahan preached to the people every Sunday from 1830 to 1847, except when he had visiting ministers with him. Among the visiting ministers were some of the great men of the restoration. We mention the names of

Elder Samuel Rogers, Benjamin Franklin, Barton W. Stone, Samuel Snodgrass and others who came to study with him the truths of the Word of God, and how to present the same to the people. These young men would come and would remain with him, many times until 2 o'clock in the morning, reading, praying and studying the Bible. Among those who came we mention the names of Thomas Wiley from New Lisbon, Indiana, and Thomas Browne of Spartanburg, Indiana, who became powerful as preachers of the Gospel. Brother Wiley was instrumental in getting the Church organized at New Lisbon and so well was his work done at that place that it is still bearing fruit and the work then is in flourishing condition.

"In 1847 Brother Carnahan passed on to the Great Beyond, but the old log church that was built largely by his efforts, remained still another 19 years as a monument to his memory. Among the families who met in the old log church, we mention the Carnahan's, Sumner's, Adams', Fowler's, Chenoweth's, Bodle's, Musselman's, Culbertson's, Elston's, Snell's, Cole's, Rarick's, Perry's, Harless', Shiveley's, Roger's, Skidmore's, and many others. We also mention some of the preachers who labored with us during the days of the old log church. There were Thomas Wiley, Thomas Burnau, Josiah Miller, Hosea Tilson, Joseph Harlan, Nathan Harlan, Hardin Harrison, Robert Admunson, and many others.

"During the summer and fall of 1866 the present church was built. Josiah Miller was the head carpenter. His time and labor was donated. He planned the building, and was helped by Daniel Snell and Ira McClure in its construction. The lumber for finishing and the seats was all dressed by hand, there being no planing mill in the county at that time. The shingles for the roof were split and smoothed by hand, from the best of oak, which was thought a good improvement over the clapboard roof on the old log Church. The Church was lighted with candles for a number of years before the coal-oil lamps were installed.

"Late in the fall of 1866 the new Church was dedicated by J.L. Parson. G.W. Thompson became the first regular minister for half time for one year.

"During the time of Brother Thompson's ministry, in the spring of 1867, the Carnahan Sunday School was organized, with Isaac Elston as superintendent, and Albina Skidmore as Secretary. This only continued through the summer months, and when the weather became cold and the roads bad it was discontinued until the next spring. We had no lesson helps or quarterlies giving comments on the lesson, but taking the New Testament we began at the 1st Chapter of Matthew and studied one chapter each Sunday while school lasted that summer and began the next spring where we left off the fall before. The superintendent also, on each Sunday, gave a list of Bible questions from both old and new Testaments, to be answered the following Sunday, and offered a prize to the one who could answer the greatest number during the Summer. These questions and the answers became very interesting. We had no cradle roll, and the primaries, those from 4 to 9 years old, were thought to be hardly capable of understanding the Bible and were provided with McGuffey's spelling books, and were taught to spell - in our Sunday School. This conditon, however, only lasted during the first summer as one of the Primary pupils, by hard study answered the greatest number of the Bible questions and received the prize. They were all taught the Bible from the next spring on.

Carnahan Church

"About this time the Sunday School was recognized, and thought to be a very great help in the work of bringing the Word of God to the minds of the people. There we would ask and answer questions, and a general interest was shown in all things pertaining to the Church of Christ. The Sunday Schools of the community would have all day celebrations, to rally the people to the Sunday School way of teaching the Bible. The Schools from Spring Hill, Hillgrove, Coletown, Palestine, Fairview, Nashville, Carnahan and many times from schools more distant, would each come in a body in a large wagons finely decorated for the occasion, with their banners and mottoes plainly visible, and all unite in a grand sociable day, as well as listen to words of encouragement from speakers engaged for the occasion."

Preachers have been: Dr. G.W. Thompson, J.H. Vinson, J.M. Smith, Joshua Brown, A.H. Moore, Asa M. Weston, W.D. Stone, D.H. Gary, I.P. Watts, O.A. Newton, M.C. Skates, J.G. Harter, J.C. Whitt, J.A. Brown, W.J. Howe, L.C. Goodrich, J.P. Ewing, A.C. Patton, B.F. Aspy, A.L. Needham, W.A. Guy, R.S. Grubb, F.G. Myrick, E.D. Goller, Fred Knauer, E.D. Reigle.

May 26, 1866, Josiah Jr. and Frances Mongar sold the land on the S.E. quarter of section 29, Washington township to trustees of the Christian Church known as the Carnahan Church, Josiah Miller, Peter Skidmore, and Samuel C. Skidmore. (Deed book Vol. 53-20)

Omar Skidmore recalls that Carnahan was a very good and active church in its day. Noah and Cappy Warvel recall that Rev. Earl Lantz preached here in its later years. Also that Carrie Teaford was a Sunday School teacher there.

Palestine German Baptist Brethren

Omer S. Cool in his very fine "Darke County Footprints" has put together a history of the German Baptist Church in Darke County. From his work we draw the following historical account on the German Baptists around Palestine.

"German Baptists were settling in the Palestine territory soon after 1800, and John Weaver was the first preacher. John Crumrine also preached here and in 1830, Emanuel Flory moved in from the Wolf Creek church and was the first resident Elder and soon the Palestine church existed without much formal organization. Meetings were held in

houses and barns until 1868, when a nice church was built one half mile south of Palestine. This building had a full basement with a flowing spring and membership at this time or soon after, was about one hundred and seventy-five." This spring was in the basement of the church and furnished water for general use.

Early ministers were John Weaver, John Crumrine, Emanuel Flory, Jacob Miller who was elected 1840 to the ministry, David Harter, Alfred Moore was elected 1861 as minister, Emanuel Miller chosen to ministry 1863, Jonathan Wenrick, George Stump elected to ministry 1879, and Daniel Wills.

The early deacons have included George Brumbaugh, George Baker, Isaac Kunkle, George Miller, Isaac Hollinger, Moses Hollinger, Jonathan Wenrick elected 1868.

This original Palestine German Baptist church has given rise to the West Branch Church in 1876, the Palestine Old German Baptist which seceeded in 1881, and the Beech Grove Church which had a meeting house as early as 1878 and a separate church in 1904.

The old 1868 church building was torn down prior to 1905 when the West Branch rebuilt their church to serve the members. Parts of the old church's foundation could be seen for many years; and the old spring still continues to flow on the now front yard of Fred and Joan Clark.

Two early deeds raise some questions to an early church in section 29 of Neave township where Weaver Station would later exist.

December 24, 1857, Peter and Elizabeth Weaver sold to the Trustees of Dunkard Church John Cable, John Burket, Isaac Hollinger, trustees in trust for the Dunkard Church on the West Branch, part of S.E. ¼ sec. 29 twp. 11 R2E. Beginning 16 rods west of corner where Otwell and Weaver corner on Hollinger's west line, thence north 10 rods, west 16 rods, south 10 rods, east 16 rods, being an acre. (Deed book G-2-197)

November 3, 1863, Peter and Elizabeth Weaver sold to Levi Burket and Isaac Hollinger part of N.E. ¼ of sec. 29 twp 11 R2E, beginning south line of said ¼ 25½ west of intersection of said line with center RR then north parallel to the RR, 5 poles, west 8 poles, south 5 poles, east 8 poles being ¼ acre. (Deed book Q-2-95).

It is unknown whether this church was a meeting house for the German Baptist Brethren or German Reformed.

West Branch Church

"In Darke County, in the former territory comprising the Palestine church, there was erected a building, in 1868, just south of the village of Palestine. This was torn down prior to 1905, when the congregation rebuilt the West Branch house, erected in 1876, and used but the one house. In 1922 the name of the congregation was changed to West Branch. This congregation was disorganized in 1930. Another building abandoned." (*Church of the Brethren in Southern Ohio,* 1955)

March 1, 1876, Henry and Lucinda and David and Lucy Baker sold to the trustees of the German Baptist Church of Palestine district, Frederick Aukerman, George Stump, and Michael Petery part of S.W. ¼ section 18 twp. 11 range 2 east. Commencing at S.W. corner of lands owned by Jacob Baker for purposes of maintaining a church House of Public worship, the said granters are to keep and maintain a fence around. (Deed Book Vol. 68, page 410)

Several of the members transferred their memberships to Greenville Church of the Brethren, after 1930.

Lyle Bond tore down the church, in the early 1930's, using the wood to build barns south on Harrison Road at Pete Rife's. Later one barn was moved to Keith Weimer's.

West Branch Cemetery - The oldest inscription in the cemetery is that of Henry Brumbaugh who died August 22, 1836 at the age of 78 years, 3 months, 8 days. (Short and Bowers).

Palestine District Old German Baptist Church

An 1881 meeting at Ludlow and Painter Creek district was the place where the division of the German Baptist Church occurred. Later that year a number of old order members met and added the word 'old' to German Baptist Church. The first annual meeting for the Old German Baptist Church was held 1882 one mile south of Brookville. The Old German Baptists built churches northeast of Pitsburg at Ludlow-Painter Creek, Miller's Grove, and Fourman Church. (*History of the Church of the Brethren of the Southern District of Ohio*)

West Branch
Church of the Brethren

Palestine Old German Baptist Church

"Elder Jacob Miller, his son, Elder Emanuel Miller, and his son-in-law, Jonathan Wenrick, who was in the second degree, seceeded with the Old German Baptists, leaving George Stump the only minister with the Church of the Brethren.

"After the division, this church and about fifty-five members had their meetings at members' homes. On May 22, 1883, a communion was held at the home of Jonathan Wenrick and in 1884, a new church building was erected one mile east and one fourth mile north of Palestine and named Miller Church. It went by this name for a while in that community and now is known as Palestine." ("Darke County Footprints" Omer S. Cool).

Clarence Deeter recounts that the church members originally met in each others homes for church. In the year 1883 Jonathan Wenrick had a communion meeting at his place. He had benches in the barn, and a basement in the house provided a place to eat. Although the meeting was in May, uncommonly cold weather and snow caused the preachers to preach in the barn with their overcoats on, and brought about a decision to build a church.

The church was built by the same man who built the Union City church on Wenrick Pike and the Price's Creek Church south of Eldorado.

Clarence replaced the cooking furnace and flue in the 1940's. Clarence was a caretaker for the church and cemetery for 45 years beginning about 1910. In exchange for this service he acquired the two acres of land north of the church property.

September 4, 1883, Jacob and Sarah Miller transferred land to the trustees of the Old German Baptist Church of Palestine District in the S.W. corner of N.E.¼ of section 14. Trustees were Solomon Aukerman, Lewis Flatter, J.F. Frank, and D.T. Wills. (Deed Book Volume 90, page 130)

Ministers have been: Emanuel Miller, Jonathan Wenrick, Daniel Wills, John H. King, Jonathan Cool, Marcus Butts, Daniel Bowman, Arthur King, Charles Garber, Josiah Beckner, Floyd Hyre, Walter Miller, Noah Flory, Thomas King, Calvin Bowman, Philip King.

Deacons have included: Jerimiah Buechly elected about 1882, Solomon Aukerman elected 1881, John G. Frank elected 1883, Lewis Flatter elected 1889, Philip Rogers elected 1901, James Runner, Jonathan Cool elected 1885, Arthur King elected 1920, Ezra Cool elected 1922, Clarence Deeter elected 1925, Joel Flory elected 1925, Arthur Kershner, Floyd Hyre elected 1940, Rufus King, Thomas King, Eugene Kelly elected 1956, Ralph Hoblit elected 1957, Mearle Benedict elected 1965. (Darke County Footprints" Omer S. Cool).

Isaac Bower is a present minister and James Rye the latest Deacon.

The present church is used on alternate Sundays, with members attending Union City district other Sundays.

Miller Cemetery - The oldest burial according to Short and Bowers is Sarah, wife of Jerimiah Buechly, who died February 12, 1885, aged 46 years, 7 months, 5 days.

Beech Grove Church of the Brethren

Andy Petry has recorded much of the church's early history.

"The Beech Grove Church was formerly a part of what was known as the Palestine Church of the Brethren, which was about ½ mile south of Palestine, Ohio on the east side of the road where the old spring still runs.

"The Palestine, Ohio Church was organized in 1830; the building was built in 1868. The Beech Grove Church was first built in 1888. Beech Grove was so named because of a predominance of beech timber in the community at the time

Beech Grove Church of the Brethren

of it's beginning. The first services were held in a schoolhouse south of the cemetery. This house was dedicated about 1878; it was later sold and moved to the Noah Richards farm, now occupied by Larry Troutwine, on the Payne Road."

Jan. 11, 1872, Jacob B. Root and Elizabeth deeded land to the German Baptist Church. Being a part of N.E. ¼ and N.W. ¼ of section 34 German township, beginning at the S.W. corner of said N.E. ¼ of said N.W. ¼ of said section thence N. 7 rods, E. 8 rods south bearing west with the county road to the south line of the 40 acres thence west 6 rods 10'. (Deed book Vol. 67)

June 7, 1888, George and Barbara Miller sold to the trustees of German Baptist Church of the Palestine District, Adam B. Miller, John Crumerine, and Jessy Brumbaugh a part of E½ of N½ of N.W. ¼ section 34, beginning at N.W. corner of graveyard lot deed to German twp. trustees by said trustees above, thence east 9 rods to center of Loring Road thence N. bearing east with road 15½ rods, W. 12 rods or to said line of 40 acres, south, about 1 acre. (Vol. 99, page 561)

"The house on the present location was built in 1888 and remodeled in 1905, the first time. It was organized as a separate church in 1904." (Andy Petry) D.M. Garver was Elder and Chairman of the new organization. Irvin Royer was elected as the first clerk; George C. Stump and Robert Burger were the first ministers of the new organization. Moses Hollinger moved into the district in 1905 and became a full time minister in 1910. David Hollinger was our first Elder. Daniel Hollinger, Andrew Miller, and Solomon Bollinger were elected deacons. Bro. Miller and John Royer served as deacons before the new organization.

"Following the organization of the new church, representatives from Prices Creek, Cedar Grove and Castine met with ones from Beech Grove and set up, by mutual agreement, boundaries for attendance at each church." (Andy Petry)

Early church members of Beech Grove March 11, 1904 were: Joshua and Mrs. Weimer, Frank and Maggie Puterbaugh, George C. (minister) and Luvina Stump, David and Vernie Keener, Andrew B. and Dora Miller, Irvin and Nancy Royer, George and Bell Puterbaugh, Robert E. (Minister) and Sarah Burger, Peter Rife, Martha Rife, Stella Rife, Barbara Miller, Clarence and Nancy Wade, George and Sarah Stump, Daniel and Daisy Miller, Andrew Petry, Daniel and Elizabeth Hollinger, William and Wesley Hollinger, George B. and Cassie Miller, Charles and Rhoda Ginger, Cleophas and Anna Hollinger, Clinton Crumrine, Frank Crumrine, Ellas Crumrine, John and Catherine Blocher, Jacob and Frances Hollinger, Irvin and Edna Hollinger, Evans and Ora Hollinger, Charles Jones, Anna Morgan, William and Martha Royer, Elizabeth, Oliver, Noah, Eliza Royer, Ira Bollinger, Solomon and Malinda Bollinger, Joseph and Sarah Royer, Henry and Dora Royer, Amos Hollinger, Lucinda Van Ormer, Harvey and Anna Royer, Anna Troutwine, Moses Hollinger (minister 2nd degree) recv'd by letter June 10, 1905, Myrtle Miller baptised March 10, 1907.

Early records under the care of the church clerk, Isabelle Hollinger, provide interesting information on the beginnings of the Beech Grove Church.

"Minute book of the Beech Grove congregation. Its organization occurred Mar. 11, 1904, at Beech Grove house, known before as a part of Palestine congregation."

March 11, 1904. "Report of council meeting held at Beech Grove church Mar. 11, 1911 for organization. Hymn 201 was used in the opening service. Eld. D.M. Garver presiding. Eld. Jos. Loganecker read the 12th chap. of Romans and gave an exhortation. Eld. Andrew Miller and ministers S.W. Blocher, Moses Hollinger, Henry Baker, B.F. Sharp, and Sylvan Bookwalter were also present.

"The matter in relation to the contents of the Palestine House was taken up. (West Branch) A committee of 3 suggested which resulted in the appointment of Brethren John Blocher, and Henry Royer, and sister David Keener as committee to meet other committee of Palestine church to see after (divide) contents namely: stoves, lamps, benches, cupboards, table clothes, dishes."

Council Meeting held Dec. 10, 1904. "Report of committee to prepare and report plans and the probable expense of building an addition to the Beech Grove House.

"They reported two plans. One an addition of 15 ft. to the west end of the house. The other plan, to put a basement under the house. The church decided to put a basement under the house."

Other records show how times have changed.

Quarterly Council June 1907. "Bro. Geo. Stump is to receive $5.00 per year for privileges of getting water from there. He to do the pumping, the church to put a tank to water horses in church yard. The trustees are to look after the work."

Council of Nov. 1917. "The building committee of Brethren's Home asked the church for $8.80 to help pay extra expense of building 'annex' to the Brethren's Home."

Andy Petry's history continues, "Letters of membership were received or granted only at their council meetings. Such meetings were usually held quarterly. A vital part of their Christian discipline was the yearly visit of the deacons prior to the Love Feast to determine that each member was in good accord with one another and the church. Great emphasis was put on leading the plain, simple, spiritual life. At times members were admonished at council meeting about such things as wearing neckties, ribbons, ruffles, fancy hair arrangements, frequenting fairs and places of doubtful repute.

"Love Feast was indeed a highlight of the year, not only for the spiritual enrichment but also for the renewing of friendships, as other friends and relatives attended. At the

annual visitations, donations were accepted for the bread and butter to be used at the Love Feast. Early Saturday evening they gathered for this important celebration, with several Elders taking part in the service. Many times breakfast was served on the following Sunday morning - a delight for the children who were allowed pie for breakfast! This was discontinued at Beech Grove in 1943. However, breakfast was served once in 1946 and then in 1953.

"In 1916 the women were granted permission to form a Women's fellowship to do sewing, quilting and knitting. Not until 1932 did the Mother-Daughter, Father-Son meeting occur.

"Major improvements were made only after soliciting the members to finance the project in mind. In 1923 they failed to get support to have electricity in the building from the transformer that Clarence Wade and William Hollinger had installed. However, in 1924 a furnace was installed and the balance of the money was used to make portable partitions in the basement for Sunday School rooms. A year later an envelope system was started to receive the offerings to cover expenses.

"At the insistance of the youth a piano was first used in services in 1932, after much discussion. The year 1938 was the first mission project to go to Spain when wheat was sent for relief. This was also the year the first salaried minister was called. E.S. Hollinger began servicing with a salary of $15.00 per month and $1.00 per sermon. In 1944 the 26 acre parsonage farm was purchased at a cost of $4,800 and Dolar C. Ritchey was called to be our pastor. Extensive remodeling was then undertaken in 1950-51 that has resulted in the present structure. During the remodeling, services were held in the Hollansburg school building. The aluminum siding was added in 1963; pulpit furniture purchased in 1965 and pews in 1974.

"The Church Board was first formed in 1958 and the papers of incorporation were filed in 1971. The Weekday School of Religion and the Council of Churches became active in 1955. Some of the Elders who have served Beech Grove were: Samuel Blocker, Lawrence Kreider, Sylvan Bookwalter, S.A. Blessing, Roy Honeyman, D.G. Berkebile, D.C. Ritchey, Glen Rust, Ellis Guthrie, Carl Ziegler and Lawrence Garst. Pastors who have served us have been: E.S. Hollinger, D.C. Ritchey, Pius Gibble, David Earl Ockerman, Paul Pheasant, and John Hurst. Delmar Moyer, Carl Zeigler, and Lawrence Garst served as interim pastors."

The *Church of the Brethren in Southern Ohio* edited by H.H. Helmanand and published 1955 by the Brethren Publishing House, adds this.

"Daniel Garver was given oversight of Beech Grove, which had sixty-eight charter members. Sylvan Bookwalter was presiding over this church in 1920 when the former Southern Ohio history was written. He continued to serve as elder until December 1923. He was in turn succeeded by B.F. Petry, after whom S.A. Blessing presided until 1936. D.G. Berkebile had charge, 1937-38; then Roy Honeyman, 1938-44. In October 1944 Dolar Ritchey became Elder, having been pastor of Beech Grove since the preceeding May. Prior to the calling of Dolar Ritchey as the first full-time pastor, E.S. Hollinger served as part-time pastor from October 1938 to December 1943. Other elders and ministers who resided in the congregation since 1920 include: Solomon Bollinger, A.V. Poling, and H. Jesse Baker, who pastored the church for awhile.

"This church called and licensed Kenneth Hollinger into the ministry in 1931 and installed him in 1932. In 1949 it licensed Donald Ritchey, who was ordained in 1951.

Deacons since 1920: Perry Eby and Elmer Miller, 1930; Everett Druley and H.H. Rife, 1938; Charles Baker and Marvin Baker, 1944. Four deacons were received by letter: Charles Miller, W.V. Petry, Paul Weimer, and Ira Mikesell.

"The original structure still stands, though many alterations have been made. Changes were made in the basement in 1937; in 1951 the building was raised and completely remodeled, and a tower and classrooms were added.

"A farm of twenty-six acres, which was adjacent to the church yard was purchased in 1944. The house was remodeled for a parsonage."

Beech Grove Cemetery (or Bollinger Cemetery) - The oldest burial is Catharine Miller, wife of George, who died April 5, 1842, aged 21 years, 2 months, 18 days. (Short & Bowers)

March 26, 1862, Jacob B. and Elizabeth Root deeded to Committee appointed by society of German Baptists of Darke County, George Miller, John Bollinger, Jacob B. Root, ½ acre near S.W. corner of northeast ¼ of N.W.¼ sec. 34 commencing at N.E. corner of school house lot of school district 10 German twp. running north with road as it now runs six rods thence west seven rods, south six rods, east 7 rods. Land to be used as graveyard for benefit of public subject to rules and regulations of committee that may be appointed from time to time by society of German Baptists to superintend said graveyard." (Deed book N-2-46)

Palestine Universalist Church

"The Universalist Church at Palestine was organized by Rev. Elihu Moore and ten others, on June 18, 1868. The minister named was the one first employed. Their first meetings were held in the old Palestine schoolhouse. Within a few years subsequent to the organization, the society erected their present fine building, at a cost of about $3,000. The first officers of the society were H.L. Hill, George Kester and M.M. Jeffries, as Deacons; George Kester, Treasurer; and Harrod Mills as Clerk. Six deaths have transpired in the society since its origin, and there is a present membership of 105 persons." (Source: 1880 *History of Darke County*, pg. 448).

The church is owned by the township. The original

Universalist Church around 1910. Note keresene lamp.

Universalist Sunday School - 1895

Universalist church disbanded 1929 or early 30's. Since then three or four groups have used the building. The Church of God presently uses the church.

The following information was gleaned from an old membership book of the church now in the possession of Virgil Deeter.

"U.V. Church organized Jan. 19, 1868 with ten members." The Rev. Elihu Moore received into the church by profession of faith Jan. 19, 1868 the following: George Kester, Viola Kester, Harrod Mills, Louisa Mills, Hugh L. Hill, Elisabeth Hill, Darlington L. Jefferis, Milton Jefferis, America Sinks, and James Cloyd.

Besides the Rev. Elihu Moore, the other ministers mentioned in the record book are:

Rev. J.H. Blackford who receive members 1875-1878, 1884, 1893, and 1894. He conducted funeral services 1883, 1898, 1899, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1906, 1907, and 1910.

Rev. J.P. McLean received members by profession of faith from 1886 to 1887, and in 1896. He conducted funeral services in 1895 and 1896.

Rev. E. Moore received members 1887 to 1888.

Rev. J. Guthrie is mentioned in the records as having received members by profession of faith 1887 to 1888. Rev. T.S. Guthrie received members in 1902 and 1903. Faithful member Bro. Guthrie preached funerals in 1888 and 1909.

S.P. Carlton received members 1889 to 1891. A.K. Beem received members 1891. Rev. Wm. Tucker received members 1894 to 1895.

Rev. John Richardson received members from 1898 to 1901, and preached a funeral in 1900.

Rev. J.A. Stoner received members in 1905, 1908, 1909. Rev. Sarah Stoner received members 1909.

Other members of the church were: Ephraim Hill, Martha Ann Harden, Elisabeth Cloyd, Allen Cloyd, Alfred Brown, Malinda Brown, John Biddle, Anna Biddle, Samuel Harden, Catharine Hill, Edy Cloyd, James McCamel, Mary E. Mills, Ira Q. Sinks, Elihu Moore, Thomas Moore, Sarah Jane Moore, Mary A. Long, Isaac Locket, Margaret Locket, Nancy Stover, Anna Dill, James McCabe, Ebaliah McCabe, John W. Geyer, Amanda Geyer, Samuel Roland, Margaret Barton, Mary Gyer, Eliza Brown, Nancy Clark, Ella Burgess, Hannah A. Rupe, Alfred Rush, Sarah Rush, Jane Hill, Wm. Spencer, Stephen Cloyd, Elisabeth Cloyd, Henry W. Fox, Lemuel J. Spencer, Susan Bowser, John R. Thomas, Thomas Fitzgearls, Elisabeth Roberts, Manda McWhiney, Ella Harding, John Burch, Dilmon Mote,

Universalist Sunday School 1896 - North side Lep Woods then S.S. Supt.

Row one: Mae Tucker, Hallie Ketring Oler, Ada Hill Metzcar, Ira Hill, Clarence Woods, James Woods, Jesse Cloyd, Ernest Sinks, Odlue Hill, Charles Davidson, Frank Pickens, Charlie Kimmel, Stanley Kimmel, Mary Simison Berkheimer, Clacy Rush Miller, Lorena Woods Cromley, Aerial Harding Hoover, Basil Ketring, James Hill, Jack Simison, Willie Ketring, Cora Hill Sellman, May Pickens.

Row two: Mrs. Nancy Stover, Mrs. Curtis (Lida) Coble, Mrs. Lorena (Doctor's wife) Kimmel, Mrs. Charles (Julia) Stover with infant Louvera, Devona Aukerman Wolford, Alice Brown Woods, Dessie Koontz Lowdenslager, Mrs. Milton (Louisa) Jefferis, Merle Saylor Becker, Myrtle Cloyd Jefferis, Minnie Hill Norton, Rhoda Ketring, Gertie Hill Throp, Ethyl Monks Haupt (Homan, Van Fleet), Retta Parent McCabe, Lew Wolford.

Row three: Harley Monks, Marvin Jefferis, Hattie Jefferis, Mrs. Frank (Lib) Hiatt, Ressie Hill Slick, Nellie Harp, Vern Brown, Alba Hill, Alma Jefferis Brown, Jesse Owens, Edna Biddle Clark Miller, Mae Woods, Jessie Pickens Ray, Frank Dickey, Leota Aukerman Owens, Roll Owens, Emma Jones, Lee Woods, Charles Stover, Jesse Woods, Dr. O.P. Kimmel, Ed Sinks, Rufus Hill, Harvey Hill, Joshua Jefferis, Curtis Coble.

Row four: Elsie Harding Saylor, Flora Jefferis Baker, Ora Pickens Aukerman, Jane Dickey, Mrs. Lee (Sallie) Woods, Nan Pickens, Roy Sinks and baby, Noah Sink, Mrs. J. Clapp, Leander Clapp, Robert Pickens, Mrs. Harvey (Nan) Hill (hidden), Mrs. Oliver Sinks, Mr. Oliver Sinks, Charles Starr, Damon Aukerman, John Aukerman, Milton Jefferis, Jacob Clapp.

Louisa Jefferis, Joshua Jefferis, Sarah Jefferis, Louisa Clapp, Amanda J. Downing, Daniel Phillippi, Peter Roberts, Milton Starbuck, Mary Starbuck, Susan Roland, Mary E. Leas, Philip Stover, Mary Ann Shively, Phebe A. Norris, Netta A. Clapp.

Received 1875: Wm. Reed and Mary Reed.

Received 1876: Clay Mote, Daniel Mote, Lydia Mote, and Elisabeth Hill.

Received 1877: Noah Sinks, Leora Sinks, Clarisa Sinks, Oliver Sinks, Flora Belle Kester, Ella Gire, Amanda J. Cloyd, Jane Eakins, Newton Eakins, Lee Monks, Alice Monks, W.H. Mills, Elizabeth Mills, John Thomas, Curtis Coble, Eliza Coble, Phebe Switzer, Ella Cloyd, Alice Cloyd, Victoria Jefferis.

Received 1878: Laura Jefferis, Pauly Boren, Elmina Starbuck, Eliza Starbuck, Ida May McCabe, Retta Sink, Clara Davis, Della Woods, Clara Thomas, Rhetta Stover, Emma Sinks, Emma Burgess, Orland P. McCabe, Burnet Cloyd.

Received 1879: Ida Cloyd, Edith Cloyd, Wm. Eikenberry, John Dickson, and Geo. Dickson.

Received 1881: Benj. Rush and Chas Stover.

Received 1882: Mrs. Noll and John Noll.

Received 1883: Amanda Hill, Emma Spencer, Effa Cochran, Anna Brooks, Ida Clapp, Everie Rush, Mattie Brooks, Lee Woods.

Received 1884: John Owens, Anna Owens, Ella Sinks, John Triester, Virgil McCabe, Jennie McCabe, Eddie Starbuck, Newton Clapp, Halleck, V.D. Rupe, Calvin Cloyd, Jennie Jefferis, Emma Jefferis, Hattie Harding, Mollie Heck.

Received 1886: Cora Rush, Tella Harding, Minerva Star, Elisabeth Star, Margaret Woods, Jacob Clapp, Elisabeth Hiatt, Lousetta Eidson, Nora Cloyd, Daniel Dowler, Mary Dowler, Arazona Dowler, Daniel Philippi, A.D. Nigsonger, Sallie Willson.

Received 1887: Callie Coffman, Laura Stephens, G.W. Brown, Henrietta Brown, Alice Brown, Dessie Brown, Geo. Davis, Jane Dickey, Lola Dickey, David Aukerman, Mary Aukerman.

Received 1888: Abbie Woods, Alice E. Shephard, Edna Coble, Carrie Biddle, Bessie Harding, G.H. Teaford, Catharine Teaford, Leas Cloyd, Wm. Owens.

Received 1889: F.B. Snyder and Laura Snyder.

Received 1890: Frank Hiatt, Mary Spencer, Setta Spencer, Elisabeth Gayer, Jennie Aukerman, Robert Pickens, Nan. Pickens, Minnie Hill, Delilah Teaford, Harry Davis, David Marquith, Willie Rush, Omer Woods, Alba Hill, Virgie Williams, Jane Burkebile, Nora Rush, Sadie Harp, Beriah McCabe, Flora Jefferis, Nan Hill, Jerry Norris, Della Norris, Damon Aukerman, Frank Harding, Dot Rush, Blanche Rush.

Received 1891: Lady Isabel Ketring, Eva Ketring, May Louise Tucker, Frank Tucker.

Received 1893: Dr. O.P. Kimmel, Mrs. O.P. Kimmel, Alma Jefferis, Ressie Hill, Vida Hill, Gertie Hill, Jessie Pickens.

Received 1894: May Woods, Ora Pickens, Elsie Harding, Iona Coble, Pearl Sipple, Julia Stover, Ethel Monks, Farrie Aukeman, Hallie McCabe, Roscoe McCabe, Margaret Spencer, Ellen Spencer, Frank Spencer, Susan Spencer.

Received 1895: Marvin Jefferis and Harley Monks.

Received 1896: Lillie Birch.

Received 1897: Agnes Ketring, Hallie Ketring, Roy Ross, Ray Ross, Fred Hiatt, Clarence Woods, James Woods, Ira Hill.

Received 1898: Mae Pickens, Blanche Sink, Ralph Brown, Frank Pickens, Robert Davidson, Laura Davidson, Ada Hill, Cora Hill, Belle Cloyd, Mrs. F. Teaford, John Rush, David Putman, R.C. Owens, J.E. Owens, Homer Jefferis, Oval Aukerman, James Aukerman, E.F. Jefferis, Edward Sinks, Casta Sinks, Reece Ketring.

Received 1899: J.F. Sinks, Emily Sinks, Melissa Mikesell, Ota Aukerman, Myrtle Cloyd, Etta Rush, Elisabeth Kearns, Lewis C. Aukerman.

Received 1900: J.W. Owens, Victoria Owens, Maude Owens, Charles Biddle, Deo French.

Received 1901: John Spencer, Laura Spencer, Elisabeth Ketring.

Received 1902: Elsie Biddle and Eliza Ross.

Received 1903: Clo Snyder, May Jefferis, Cleo Spencer, Wm. Ketring, Audlin Hill, Ivy Spencer, Retta Spencer, Rilla Rush.

Received 1905: Clacy Rush, Basil Ketring, Albert Kearns, Lavera Stover, Pearl Sleeth, Elva Ketring, Cecil Snyder, Claude Aukerman, Kenneth Sink.

Received 1908: Areal Harding, Lottie Metzgar, Mabel Metzgar, Grace Jefferis, Merl Jefferis, Carl Jefferis, Mae Kester, Densel Spencer.

Received 1909: Lottie Monks, Gertrude Simison, Maud Warner, Mary E. Miller, Wm. Schmidt, Arnetta Schmidt.

Palestine Cemetery - March 6, 1849 John M. and Sarah Harter sold land to have and to hold as a Public Burying Ground to German township trustees William C. Deem, Peter C. Wikoff, and Samuel Fox. This land began 6 chains 91 links south from the NW corner of SW¼ of section 14 thence south 11 rods east 21 rods north 11 rods west 21 rods, being about 1½ acres. (Deed book S-1-305)

The oldest stone is that of George Kester age 61 years and 2 days who died May 10, 1838 and served in the War of 1812. His wife Elizabeth is also named on the same stone dying at age 61 years on Nov. 10, 1838. (Short and Bowers)

Additional land was added in 1859 and 1860.

German township trustees Robert Pickens, James B. Wilcox and James J. McOwn seemed to have expanded the cemetery Sept. 21, 1889 by purchasing land from William E. and Della Kester. (Deed book Vol. 103-123)

Mount Zion United Brethren Church

June 5, 1846, Jacob Landis sold land "to be used for building a House there in for the special worship of God" to trustees of United Brethren in Christ David Briant, Robert Ross, and Holmes Schenck. (Deed book T-1-386)

Land just north of center of section 20 Neave twp. NW corner at intersection Weaver Station and Byrket roads was sold by Joshua and Mary Ann Townsend to trustees of Mount Zion United Brethren Church July 30, 1877. The trustees at this time were Peter Weaver, Henderson L. Albright and I.D. Parent and the land was about one acre (Deed book Vol. 70-413)

"Mr. Robert Ross (s/o Henry Ross) was a United Brethren minister at Mount Zion U.B. church. He was selected in the Darke area to conduct the services as the train bearing President Abraham Lincoln was being brought from Washington D.C. through Darke County to his final resting place in Springfield, Ill." ("The Family History of the Ross Family," Gladys Hercules.)

Tom Ross has the bell from Mt. Zion Church.

Mt. Zion Cemetery - The oldest burial in the cemetery may have been Joseph Schenckiec, age 4 months, 22 days who died June 17, 1848. (Short and Bowers)

Palestine Christian

"The Palestine Christian Church was organized in the year 1836, by Elijah Williamson, with a small membership. The first meetings were held in an old schoolhouse. Mr. Williamson and Richard Brandon were the first ministers. James Woods, Thomas Himes, John Crum, Joseph Heck, Henry Grove and their wives, and Philip Manuel were among the first members. The present meeting-house was built in 1859, and the society has an enrollment of 103 members." (1880 *History of Darke County*, pg. 448).

"Effected an organization as early as 1836 under elder Elijah Williamson, who, with Richard Brandon, preached in an old school house in Palestine where a church was built in 1859." (1914 *History of Darke County*)

As the only known school house in 1836 would have been the 1820 pioneer school near the present cemetery, this then must have been where the church met and built. Unfortunately the church must have been gone by 1875, as it is not shown on the 1875 plat, and no one seems to know anything about this first church built in Palestine.

Later meetings were apparently held in the St. John's church, as the Oct. 17, 1857 transfer of title from John Ketring to the Lutheran Church deeds the land to the German Reformed, the Lutheran, the Christian, and the United Brethren Churches meeting there. (Deed book Vol. 51-182)

Perhaps the 1859 Christian Church was built where the Universalist Church stands. And perhaps it burnt or was replaced by the Universalist Church. No information could be found on the ending of either the church or the church building.

Palestine Disciples and Palestine Church of Christ

This church "organized in 1873 under John M. Smith with about twenty members, and in 1877 erected a church in Palestine." (1914 *History of Darke County*)

"The Disciple Church of Palestine was organized in April 1873, by John M. Smith, with about twenty members. Earlier meetings were held in the Universalist Church. In the summer of 1877, the denomination erected their present fine and commodious building at a cost of $1,500. The officers at organization were Joseph Snyder and James Willery, as Elders; Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, Deacon; and J.A. Spittler, Clerk. There is an adjunct of value in a flourishing Sabbath-school, superintended by James Wilcox." (1880 *History of Darke County*, pg. 448)

May 14, 1877 Mary A. Shively sold to trustees of the Disciples congregation of Palestine, Ira McClure, Joseph Snyder, James Wilcox, John A. Spittle, Charles Viets, lots 78 and 79 in Putman's addition. (Deed book 73-79)

James Wilcox was going to donate land for the Church site which would have located the church on West 2nd Cross Street, but they decided against that location.

Elmer E. Fritz, who served as minister 6½ years, wrote a history of this church in 1960. From this history is gleaned the following:

"Within the membership of the Universalist Church in Palestine, there was an element whose dissatisfaction with the Universalist Church was becoming more and more pronounced. In April of 1873 this element, consisting of less than thirty people, withdrew from the Universalists. Subsequent to this a Disciple leader, John M. Smith, held a series of meetings for this small group, and the Church of Christ at Palestine came into existence. The first church records (Church Records, I, June 21, 1873) tell of this event."

"Palestine June 21st. In the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred seventy-three.

"Elder J.M. Smith of the Church of Christ visited our place during the months of April and May of the above named year and delivered a series of discourses to our people on the Lord's plan of salvation, calling the attention of the people back to the ancient order of Apostolic teaching for salvation. He also inferred on the minds of the people the necessity of obeying that order of teaching in order to salvation. And as a result twenty seven were constrained to obey Jesus according to his Gospel conferring their faith in him as the Messiah Son of God. After having this come out to engage in the service of Christ and live according to his word, we felt it necessary to set in order things wanting in the congregation.

"Accordingly on the above named day at 2 o'clock p.m. in the Universalist Church House Palestine Darke Co. Ohio, Bro. J.M. Smith presiding, the Brethren then by unanimous consent set apart Bro. Joseph Snyder and Bro. Charles Viets as elders or overseers, and Bro. James Wilcox and Bro. Emanuel Hepner as Deacons, after which Bro. Smith impressed upon their minds the great responsibility of duty in carrying out the Apostolic order of the Church as given in the Scriptures, - also offering prayer in behalf of the congregation that God would keep them all unto eternal life.

"The Church of Christ, now organized, employed J.M. Smith to visit them once every month, preaching to them when he came. A church building had been erected by the summer of 1877, costing, according to the historian, $1,500. At that time, the historian continued, 'There is an adjunct value in a flourishing Sabbath school, superintended by James Wilcox.' Communion was observed with great regularity.

"One-hundred and thirty-eight people are listed as doners to this project (1877 building), a thing not uncommon in a time when large projects were done, often, by the help of many in a community. The structure erected was a frame building (34 feet by 45 feet), with a belfry, two entrances on the north and heated by two stoves (wood burning) placed strategically in the building.

"The lighting system consisted of kerosene lamps. The first chandelier, costing $30.00, was paid for on October 9, 1894. The whole structure was placed on huge hewn logs with an outer red-brick foundation. With the exception of

1925 Father's Day, Church of Christ

Bottom, left to right: unknown, Lottie Koons, unknown, Nora Siniard, Pearl Hogsten.

Standing right to left: Mary Spencer, Hattie Brumbaugh, Malinda Wilcox, unknown, Ida Flatter, unknown, Hannah Haines.

Mrs. Denzil Spencer, Matilda Wilcox, Mrs. Jess Ross, Mother Perry, Ida Flatter, Fern Tejan, Zelma Siniard, Spencer, Mrs. Goller, Mrs. Clay, Mrs. Cromley, Margaret Manuel, Rose Davis, Mrs. Allan Koons, Adavier's mother Wilcox, Davis, Evy Wilcox, Mrs. Siniard, Hannah Haines.

1925 Christian Church Father's Day

Bottom, right to left: Ralph Wilson, Basil Ketring, Walt Tejan, Dewey Siniard, Denzill Spencer, William Dill, Ira Warvel, Oliver Perry, unknown, John Siniard, Louis Flatter, Bill Siniard.

Standing, right to left: Ivan Saylor, M.W. Davis, Isaac Dill, Omar Dill, Jess Ross, Walter Haines, Herbert Saylor, Allan Koons, unknown, Floyd Hogston, Sam Bennett, unknown, Allen Koons, unknown, Rev. Goller.

This picture taken around the turn of the century is believed to be the early Disciples Church in Palestine. Omar Dill recalls that the chimneys in the original church were changed, but does not remember the steeple being changed. The only ones identified in the picture are: Sam Stephens, Alma Jefferis, Orlando Jefferis, Pearl Jefferis, Mat Jefferis, and Elijah W. Thought was given that this might have been the old Fairview Church. Note the lantern hanging inside. The picture was taken by Wm. Aten of Gettysburg, who also took the pictures for Nashville and Universalist Church in the late 1890's.

Palestine Church of Christ

Palestine Christian Church

the dual chimneys, the kerosene lamps, and two entrances (scars of these are still apparent), the basic structure has remained intact. The property on which the structure stands was purchased from John Noll for $25.00."

"Palestine, March 6, 1876 - We the undersigned agree to pay the sum annexed to our name for the purpose of erecting a Church House at Palestine, Darke County, Ohio. The house to be completed during the summer and fall of 1876 or 1877. The money to be paid whenever there is a sufficient amount raised and contract for building the House is let. If there is not a sufficient amount of money raised this subscription to be noll and void. The said House when

finished and dedicated to be given over onto the hands of a certain member of Trustees that may be appointed by the Disciple Congregation at Palestine. James Willcox $100, Chas. Viets $100, Ira McClure $100, Joseph Snyder $100, John Spitler $10, M.N. Kerst $50, George Dively $25, John Fox $7.50, C.F. Alexander $10, Benjamin Elliot $5, Harrison Anderson $5, Rebecca Anderson $5, Thomas N. Moore $5, Mary Jane Moore $5, C.M. Thomas $2, E.L. Brown $5, B.R. Tilson $10, Lewis Bowser $5, Verny Harding $2.50, P. Harding $1.50, Henry Hiper $1, J. Leas $3, Eli Bukerbile $2, Irvin Eakins $2, S.B. Miller $5, J.O. Heck $1, J.S.F. Cole $5, J.T. Michael $2, L.C. Aukerman $2, John Aukerman $2, O.P. Willcox $2, Lee Woods $2, Mary A. Shively (paid in deed to this lot) $25, James Harding $10, Milton Keener $10, David Keener $5, Jesse Woods $15, Wm. McCown (to be paid in Sept.) $3, J.A. Jobes $5, Frederick Baum $3, J.M. Viets $5, Phillip Trabing $2." (This list of donors shared by Genevieve Wilcox Albright.)

Church Records, I, Feb. 8, 1890, according to Fritz indicates that the three Disciple congregations pooled their resources to hire minister Massa C. Scates. The other two churches were Carnahan and Spring Hill.

Building improvements have been a 1943 addition, 1949 basement, 1952 parsonage, and 1960 education building.

Paul Coe in Dec. 13, 1980 *Greenville Advocate.* "Since he assumed the pastorate, an auditorium was built (in 1976) after the old building was torn down. Coe said the foundation for an educational wing (additional classrooms and storage space) was laid last year and has yet to be completed. 'It has been a long, slow process.' he said, one which was delayed because of the camp building which occurred Dec. 6, 1978."

Ministers have been John M. Smith 1873, J.H. Vinson 1889, Massa Scates 1890, A.J. Cottrell 1892, George C. Waggoner 1894, J.M. Smith 1897, W.J. Howe 1900, Arthur M. Palton 1906, Earl S. Farmer 1907, W.A. Gery 1911, Collar 1920, Ward 1920, O.M. Pennock 1921, Joseph Coffin 1929, Clifford Kope 1929, Kenneth Slorp 1930, Athey 1935, Gulledge 1937, Smith 1938, Ashton 1939, John Ross 1941, Earl Lantz 1942, Norman R. Able 1951, Glen Bourne 1951, Carl McClellan 1953, Elmer E. Fritz 1954, Harry Pitts 1961, Fred Couch 1967, Rich Smartnick 1969, Dean Giumon 1974, Paul Coe. (Helen Graham's Scrapbook)

Church of Christ Homecoming - "The first Sunday in October has always been Rally day and homecoming. Won't you join us Sunday, Oct. 6 at 9:30 a.m. for memories and recollections. Basket dinner in K. of P. Hall."

"The four oldest living members of Palestine Church of Christ were among the 130 people present in October, Rally Day. The four are: Mrs. Esther Campbell, a member for sixty-seven years; Mrs. Minerva Ware, sixty-three years; and Mrs. Ida McCartney and Elmer Stapleton, sixty years each. The church was organized in 1873. The rally program continued throughout the day. Denzile L. Spencer now is superintendent of the school and Earl Lantz is minister." (Newspaper clippings)

Wesley Chapel & Horn Cemetery

There is, no doubt, an interesting history to this old church in the southwestern part of Liberty Township. The 1914 *History of Darke County* states, "The methodists probably erected the second church structure in the township in the northwest corner of section 29." This would date the structure between the 1826 St. John's and the 1830 West Zion churches.

The oldest burial in the Horn Cemetery according to Anita Short's and Ruth Bowers' work would be Thomas Perry who died September 8, 1838, aged 35 years, 3 months, and 20 days.

The cemetery is located in the NW corner of Section 29 of Liberty Township west of the Hollansburg-Tampico Road, and 2 mile north of Glen Karn. The Wesley Chapel was located in section 29 and was probably near the cemetery, off Balzer Horn property.

Charles W. Thomas came to Darke County in 1826 to settle on section 31 of German Township. "Religiously he was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served as a local preacher and class leader." (Source: 1900 Bio. of Darke, pg. 488)

From Deed book P-1, page 38 of the recorder's office, we find Joseph F. and Sarah Randolph sold to Daniel Thompson, Samuel H. Woodmansee, Edmund Osbourn, Charles W. Thomas, George Thomas, Robert Smith, Joseph F. Randolph, George Anderson, and William Mitter, trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church on February 6, 1846, land in section 29 (30?) twp. 11, R1E beginning at a corner beech tree near the county road NE corner section, running south along County road for church and "interment for the dead".

Hollansburg Methodist Episcopal Church

"The Methodists built a church in the northern part of the village (Hollansburg) about 1875." (Source: 1914 *History of Darke,* pg. 563)

The Thomas's of section 31 German Township, appear to be active in this church too, so perhaps; many of the Wesley Chapel congregation transferred to the Hollansburg church if, indeed, the two churches are not the same. The Wesley Methodist church is still shown on the 1875 plat.

William and Mary E. Snorf to Methodist Episcopal Church, Harrison Thomas, Samuel Thomas, David Thomas, Calvin Albright, Samuel Eliot, trustees of Methodist Episcopal Church at Hollansburg. Land commencing at center of road leading from Hollansburg to Tampico and at the South East corner of lands now owned occupied by Wiliam Snorf and at the NE corner of Hannah Harrisons farm running thence west 8 rods N. 10 rods E. 8 S. along road 10. Pt. of NW¼ of sec. 5 twp. 10 R1E July 24, 1874. (Deed book Vol. 65-255)

Ethel (Lovin) Fisher of Kansas City, Mo., was the organist awhile at the ME church. She writes that it was a "big white frame building - just a plain, one room rectangle, with two doors at the front and a porch without a roof. Boys sat at the back near the doors and were the first one to leave after the service. As the girls came out the door, the boys would step up and claim their 'date' or ask to 'see' someone home. The building was heated by a large stove up front at one side. It was about 5 ft. high and maybe 2½ feet in diameter and burned wood. One time during revival meeting, they asked for testimony and no one responded, so Nellie (Hoos) Eckert stood up and sang a few lines from a lively revival song: 'Fire up! Fire up! Brother fire up! Keep the fire aburning in your soul! Fire up!' At this, the janitor

got up and opened the stove door and stirred up the fire with a long 'poker' and sat down again! His name was Henry Harrison but people called him 'Henry B. God' because he couldn't say the simplest sentence without using that expression at least twice."

Hollansburg Christian Church

October 8, 1840, William Holoman and Sarah his wife sold to Nathan Harlan, Cornelius Vanhuzs, and John Lanter, trustees, for $1, land to be used for use of Public as Burying ground and for building a house of worship for the denomination known by the name of Christians of Church of Christ - one quarter acre beginning at Wm. Stewarts line West 5 poles, north 8 poles, east 5 poles and south to the pace of beginning and also west half lot 66 in Town of New Hollinsburg. (Deed book L-1-369)

"On account of the number of adherents to the 'New Lights' in this section a society of this denomination was soon organized, and, in 1840, built a church on the present site of the cemetery. This was replaced by another structure in 1852, and much better one in 1896. The last named building was struck by lightning in 1913 (1912) and burned. A modern brick structure costing about $8,000 was soon erected and was dedicated April 26, 1914." (1914 *History of Darke County*, pg. 563)

Dec. 29, 1846, William and Sarah Holloman sold to Nathan B. Harlan, John Sunter, and Cornelius Vantice trustees of the Christian meeting house in Hollansburg lots 47 and 48. (Deed book R-1-422) It was on lot 48 that the structure was built, as indicated by the 1857 plat.

The records available date back to 1866. These records indicate the church parishioners are much concerned for their appearance and Christian example in the community. An 1875 minutes show where it was asked "If any brother or sister knows of any violations of good morals or unchristian

Hollansburg Christian Church

conduct to make it known."

According to custom the members met on the fourth Saturday of the month for worship and to transact church business.

The October 26, 1867 minutes show Jacob Peden and I.J. Harlan on the committee to keep the said meeting house for one year. "Jacob Peden was reported to have the lowest bidder of $40.00 and find the oil and all the fuel found to his hand at the meeting house, and he is to open the house to all persons having a good standing in their own church to preach and are religious worshiper to lectur on all subjects that will promote the interest of the church further to open the house to all others. Such as Sunday Schools and Singing Schools and there being no other business the meeting adjourned."

One of the church's customs was to send a visiting committee of one or two to members' homes who had had charges brought against or who had missed too many attendances.

Another custom of the church was imposing a poll tax on its members based on the member's property value. This poll tax assessment could be appealed if thought too much.

Condemnations were made for playing cards, cursing, going to picnics and dancing.

The following comes from a history written for the church in 1964 celebrating 125 years of church history:

"In the year of 1839, while the country was new and thinly settled, the citizens of Hollansburg and vicinity, feeling the need of a church building in the community for the purpose of increasing and stimulating the moral and religious standards of the people, met and organized what is known as the First Christian Church, (then called the New Lite Church) with twelve charter members: James and Hannah Harrison, C.W. and Manerva Chenoweth, Harrison Vincent, Cornelius and Margaret Van Nuys, Anna Hiatt, Isaiah and Mrs. Elliott, Silas Richards, and Frances Spencer. The last charter member deceased was C.W. Chenoweth, February 21, 1922.

"The first church building was of log structure, and it was built on the present site of the cemetery which is east of the present church building. Allen Barber was the first minister and the organization was effected by him. In May, 1840, Rev. Barber held a meeting in the woods north of the location of the present church and added fourteen new members in one meeting.

"The log building accommodated the congregation until the year of 1852. Then they found it necessary to build a new and larger structure which was built on the site where the present church now stands. The lot was donated to the church by William Holloman, founder of our town.

"Under the ministerial labor of such men as the Reverends: Summerbell, I.T. Lynn, Harrison Vinson, John Davenport, McCulla, C.W. Heoffer, J.R. Courtner, and others of equal ability, this building was found to be too small to accomodate the congregation. In the year of 1894 under the advice of the Rev. C.W. Heoffer, the members concluded to build a larger and more modern building.

"In January, 1894, the trustees of the church met with some of the church members with the Rev. C.W. Heoffer officiating. A building committee of six were appointed as follows: T.T. Irlan, J.W. Netring, Issac Mackey, A.J. Moore, John Lowdenslager, and W.E. Chenoweth. The said committee with the assistance of the new pastor, the Rev. J.R. Courtner, appointed their several committees and proceeded to solicit for the money to erect the building.

"The finance committee reported favorable, and the soliciting was done in the winter of 1893. In the spring of 1894, the building was under progress. The contract was let to Zacheus Woods of Union City, Indiana, and was completed ready for dedication on November 11, 1894, at a cost of $2,511.00 with all debts satisfied. The Rev. J.R. Courtner was pastor at the time.

"This last frame structure was forty by sixty feet with the furnace in the basement. It had two rooms on the ground floor, and it was so arranged that it could be made into one large room by hoisting the doors. The membership had increased from the few charter members to near two hundred by this time. This structure was built with a vestibule in front which had an eighty foot steeple. In June, 1912, the steeple was struck by lightning and the building burned down; however the good citizens of the community succeeded in saving the church pews, pulpit, piano, and song books, because the fire started in the top of the steeple which gave ample time to remove the furniture before the fire reached the lower part of the building.

"The old bell, which had been in use since the church was built in 1852, was melted. Nothing was found of it but some molten pieces, and the bell clapper which are in the possession of the C.A. Thomas family at the present time. The burning of this building left the congregation without a meeting place for church services or Sunday School.

"The religous spirit of the K. of P. Lodge became interested at this time and granted the use of their hall for the church services and Sunday School and church members held their regular services at that place.

"On July 1, 1912, members of the Christian Church met at the K. of P. Hall and by advice of the Rev. C.W. Hoeffer,. proceeded to arrange for the erection of a new building. C.A. Thomas was elected as president of the meeting with authority to appoint the necessary committees to carry on the work of getting a plan and soliciting for means to finance the same. Frank Bowman was elected secretary, and the president appointed the committee on plans and probable cost. The committee appointed were: N.T. Irelan, Oliver Spencer, Arthur Moore, Elmer Newton, Mary Harley, Ella Woods. They were advised to visit different church buildings and to report as soon as it was convenient. The said committee made a report that they had visited four separate church buildings, and reported in favor of a brick

Hollansburg United Church of Christ

building with a basement under the whole building and with steam heating. The report was accepted by the president of the building committee and the following solicitors were appointed: Howard Harley, Charles Peden, Earl Mitchell, and Harvey Buckingham. The work for the new brick building was started in earnest. By September, 1912, the architect had the plans and specifications ready, and the finance committee had funds enough to receive bids for the new structure.

"The contract was let to Pugh and Westfall of Greenville, Ohio. C.A. Thomas was placed in charge of procuring windows for the building because this part of the work was not specified in the former contract. Mr. Thomas took charge of this work, and by donations from different persons, Aid Societies, Sunday School classes and other societies. He was able to procure art glass windows made by the Pitsburg Art Glass Company. The windows were marked with splendid designs which made the openings look beautiful and added beauty to the building.

"Because one of the contractors left and the other was relieved from the contract, the work progressed very slow. The building was not completed until in February, 1914, at which time the dedication service was set for the last Sunday in February, 1914. This day being so strong and cold, the time was postponed until April 26, 1914, at which time, the balance of the funds was raised, and the Church was dedicated, clear of all debts, costing about $8,000.00.

"The Rev. C.W. Hoeffer was pastor at this time, and he was assisted in the dedication service by the Rev. D.K. Judy, M.A. Harlan (M.E. minister), G.B. Cain and the dedicatory sermon was preached by Dr. Burnett of Dayton, Ohio. The amount to be subscribed on dedication day to satisfy all claims was over $3,000.00 which was over subscribed at the service.

"During the years that followed, Rev. C.W. Hoeffer's fruitful ministry, many young and old ministers of our faith have served our congregation well and faithfully, namely The Rev. Jacob A. Frazier who served as our pastor at two different periods of time in the early 1920's, followed by the Reverends J.D. Hampton, Oscar Irvine, Milton C. Wisely, a great Bible scholar, world traveler, and faithful teacher, Reverend Speaker, Earnest Treber, Robert J. Coovert, W.E. Soudres, J.J. Beisiegel, Fred Orr, Neal D. Newlin, John Bergland, Clark Denison, Don Davis, and Ronald C. Hajarian who became our pastor in July, 1957. During Rev. Hajarian's ministry here, our Church membership and Sunday school attendance was greatly increased, and it was the belief of our congregation that we needed additional Sunday School rooms to accommodate the youth that was now attending our Sunday School.

"During the December, 1957, monthly Official Board meeting, a building committee was appointed to investigate the costs and to make plans for additional Sunday School classrooms. This committee consisted of Lowell Snyder, Wendell Mote, Dale Williams, Vaughn Chenoweth, Harold Moore, and Norman A. Harris. The building committee worked faithfully for several months on plans for the new classrooms and presented their plans to the congregation and out of 65 votes cast on August 10, 1958, 45 were cast in favor of the committees plans to go ahead with the project.

"In September, 1958, a Finance Committee for the building project was appointed as follows: Marion Clapp, Tom Eley, Robert Mikesell, Ethel Wilcox, and Gene Richards.

"The Rev. John Byers, our Assistant State Supt. offered to direct our Building Campaign for new classrooms. Rev Byers asked for 25 men to work faithfully with him as solicitors in the campaign. Twenty five men volunteered and met with our campaign manager for three evenings February 11, 12, and 13 for instructions. On Sunday afternoon, February 14, 1959, they went out and raised sufficien pledges to start the building.

"On Sunday, July 26, 1959, following our morning worship service, our Ground Breaking Service was held for ou new structure.

"During our fund raising campaign for our new building addition, Mrs. Leona Thompson, Richmond, Indiana, bequeathed to our church the sum of $3,000.00 in her wil which was added to our Building Fund. In her memory, the church has erected a bronze plaque on the wall of the new addition.

"Our new classrooms were completed, and Dedicatior Sunday was set for February 7, 1960. Our dedication service was held at 8:00 p.m. with the Rev. John Byers as our dedication speaker.

"Following Rev. Hajarian's ministry here, Rev. Larry Bechtol has been our pastor. We have enjoyed his pastorate here, since January, 1961, and during his ministry with us our congregation was regular in payment of their building fund pledges and all debts were paid. A Mortgage Note Burning Service was held November 4, 1962, in the morning service. The total cost of this building project was approximately $22,000.00.

"In 1963 we received a bequeath of $1,000.00 from Mr. Squire Chenoweth' estate, which the church used in the erection of a new bulletin board which was dedicated to his memory, June 14, 1964.

"During the 125 yers since the founding of the First New Lite Christian Church, our church has endured many hardships and has enjoyed many pleasant refreshing times of the Spirit.

"In 1839 we were the New Lite Christian Church, in 1929 with the merger of the Congregational Church we became the Congregational Christian Church and in 1957 our church united with the Evangelical and Reformed Church thereby making us a greater fellowship - The United Church of Christ."

Dale C. Williams
Norman A. Harris

Hollansburg Cemetery - Further land additions to the cemetery are indicated by the following deed records:

Feb. 8, 1879, James and Cyrena C. Clery sold lots 65 and 66 to the Harrison township trustees. They also sold land in section 5 commencing 10 ft. south of the SE corner of lot 65 thence north 86° 30' east 1 chain 59 links or 6 rods 6 ft. to half of section line thence NW to south line of old grave yard. (Deed book vol. 75-472)

Feb. 20, 1879, Charles Boggs and Dora to Harrison township trustees Mivishe Wiley, C. Brown, and J.S. Pitman, part of the NW¼ of section 5 for a burial ground. (Deed book vol. 76-270)

Fairview Church used by Anchor Grange

Fairview Church

Fairview Congregational Christian Church and Union Meeting House

First shown on the 1857 plat on the property of S. Parent Jr., and listed as "U.Ch.". In 1875 and succeeding plats, listed as Christian Ch.

One clue to the "U.Ch." may come from Deed book H-2-573, which records the land transfer from Samuel and Mary Parent to the trustees of the Union Meeting House, April 8, 1857. Perhaps then, the church was simply the Union Church? The trustees were Samuel Parent, Darlington Jeffers, and Cornelius Rogers. The land transferred in 1857 was commencing on the line 16 rods 7 ft. south of the NE corner of section 10 thence west 70 feet thence south 44 feet thence east 70.

The tornado of 1920 did some damage to the church, so the members, some of whom had moved to the area from West Virginia, rebuilt the church. Naomi Slick recalls that Charlie Heck was instrumental in getting the Fairview church rebuilt in 1921. Other members at that time were Stanley and Dora Price, Marcellus and Florida Runner, Glen and Beatrice Lane, Ben and Myrtle Cole, James and Bernetta Harsh, Charlie and Mary Isenhour, Koontz's, Alba and Lulu Price, and Phillip's. They dug a basement east of the old site, and moved the rebuilt church over the basement.

Cappy (Heck) Warvel, went to church there and thinks the church ceased around 1928-30. The cornerstone was put somewhere in the foundation of the Nashville Church.

Anchor Grange used the building in the late 1940's and early 1950's. The building was then used by the Darke County Wildlife Club and later by Hedger's Auction. The building burned in the 1970's, and today four maple trees are all that mark the spot.

African Methodist Episcopal Church

This church had its beginnings in the 1830's or 1840's at its first location on the northwest corner of the first intersec-

Building the A.M.E. Church. Garfield Epps on top.

A.M.E. Church

Bethel Wesleyan Church

tion west of the state line on Stingley Road. It is still at this Indiana location on the 1874 Greensfork township plat. The 1882 *History of Randolph County* by Tucker offers this information on the church. "Some of the members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church on the Indiana side have been Robert Scott, Matthew Lewis, Allen Davis, Daniel Burden, John Randle, Reuben Randle, Levi Linzby, the Purnell brothers (three or four of them), Nimrod Lewis and many others."

"Among their preachers have been Paul Quinn (late Bishop of the A.M.E. Church), Mackintosh, Ward, the Revels brothers, Harper, Mac Smith, Burden, Winslow, Radcliff, Chavis, Stokes and many besides." Rev. Lemuel Stoker was also a minister there.

"The old meeting house (A.M.E.) was built about 1837. The religious work for both sides at first was done by the white Methodists. The African Methodist Episcopal society broke off first, but stayed with the white Methodists till the Wesleyans arose. The white Methodist meeting house was in Ohio, in the woods near the Clemens Burying-Ground. Afterwards the Wesleyans built a log church near their present one." (*History of Randolph County,* Tucker, pg. 139)

Lawrence Goens recalls that the old A.M.E. church building was moved and used as a barn by old Charlie Mason.

Mahlon Lewis preached at the Methodist church in Ohio in the early 1900's. Later Mahlon went to Philadelphia where he became one of the greatest colored ministers in Philadelphia.

By 1910 the wooden frame A.M.E. church building was at its second location, across the road from the Wesleyan Church, on the NE corner of the intersection. There was also a parsonage for the church at this location. Maze Clemens recalls that there were several children who would cross the street from one church to the other during services, so the church was moved to the third location, east of the Wesleyan Church where it now stands vacant. The dedication for the church at this location was in 1921. Maze recalls that $19.21 in coin was put in the cornerstone. The last service performed at this church was for the funeral of Marlene and Bessie Grant parents of Naomi and Glen Clemens. By this time, both congregations were much smaller, so they reunited.

The church property now belongs to Wilberforce College.

Bethel Wesleyan Church

March 24, 1845, William R.J. Clemens, minister of Wesleyan Methodist Church, was granted license to solemnize marriages. ("Darke County Common Pleas Court Records, 1817-1860", Anita Short and Ruth Bowers 1-7-265)

April 7, 1854, James and Sophia Clemens sold land for the church to the trustees: Philip Holland, W.R.J. Clemens, Isaac Bass, Charles Clemens, and Henry Goens. This land was the 1/5 acre located at the northwest corner of section 8. (Deed book D-2-343)

May 1, 1855, James and Sophia Clemens sold to the Wesleyan Methodist Church trustees Charles Clemens, John Holland, Isaac Bass one acre in the southwest corner of west ½ of SW ¼ of section 5 and ¼ acre in the NW corner of W½ of NW¼ section 8. (Vol. 88-175)

According to *History of Randolph County,* 1882 by Tucker, Rev. Charles Clemens and Rev. Perry Clemens were two of the early ministers for this church.

The Bethel Wesleyan Methodist Church merged with the Pilgrim Holiness Church about 1970 to become the Wesleyan Church as it is now known.

The church used to have 2 doors and 2 stoves and fence to separate the men and women.

Clemens Cemetery - James and Sophia Clemens sold land in the E½ of the SE¼ of section 6 beginning 64 rods north from the SE corner of said tract for a public grave yard to the trustees of Wesleyan Methodist Graveyard, Charles Clemens, Reuben Goens, and W.R.J. Clemens Oct. 1, 1870. (Vol. 88-176)

The oldest burial is Mary Holland, wife of John Holland, who died aged 30 years February 8, 1832. (Darke County Cemeterys, Short and Bowers)

Other names in this cemetery include Crawford, Jackson, Coston, Bass, Brown, Jett, Spicer, Myers, Shoemaker, Archie, Goens, Ware, Estell, Norton, Cook, McCowen, Patterson, Spinner, LaMondue, Wright, Phillips, Smith, Sweed, Lamb, Mason, Burden, Hurd, Lewis, Thompson, Harrington, Shaffer, Mason, Jefferson, Williams, Wade, Grant, Marsh, Rickman, Shoecroft, Malson, and Brooks.

William Clemens, Maze's dad, has told that anybody who died unknown in Greenville used to be brought out to be buried in this cemetery. It was established as a free cemetery.

Bass Cemetery - James Moorman of Wayne County, Indiana, sold this land to the trustees of the Burying Ground, John Okey, Stephen Wade, and Isaac Bass 1 acre in the SW corner of SW¼ of section 8, July 27, 1854. (Deed book B-2-110) The oldest burial is Bass, infant of L. and M. Bass, who died 7-8-1834, aged 11 days. (Darke County Cemetery Records by Short & Bowers)

Alexander Graveyard - This cemetery located in section one of Greensfork township holds the remains of John Kays buried 1839. Also buried here are Thornton Alexander, Lewis Burden, and Philip Holland. Other names include Lewis, Shaffer, Davis, Simpson, Holly, Cotman, Burden, Robbins, Peale. (Source: Tucker's *History of Randolph County*)

Spring Hill Church

Spring Hill Methodist Church - Adam and Sarah Ohler to trustees Methodist Church David Glunt, David Wasson, George McClure "so long as the house shall be used for church purposes" part of SE¼ of SE¼ of sec. 18 twp. 12 R1E. June 1, 1867. (Vol. 51-384)

Joseph and Elizabeth Glunt to trustees of Spring Hill Cemetery Assn. Daniel Glunt, Jacob B. Chenoweth, John L. McClure, part of NE corner of that part of SE corner of SE¼ of sec. 18. (Vol. 61-359)

First Universalist Service - Naomi Jobes shares that her great grandfather John Rush had the first Universalist sermon preached in his log cabin in 1811. She got this from Frank Ray. John Rush was on the old Thomas Homestead or present Chris Walker farm southwest of New Madison.

Christian Church - "To Judge John Purviance is given the credit of delivering the first sermon to a civil congregation within the bounds of Darke county. This event is said to have happened at the house of Judge Rush (Prophetstown) in 1811." (1914 *History of Darke County,* Frazer Wilson, pp. 199 and 200)

Sam Blocher's Bank Barn Meetings - Apparently the early German Baptists held meetings in Blocher's big bank barn as an excerpt from W.T. Mote's diary Apr. 5, 1936, "The Big Meetings in the Big Bank Barn - the people of that day dead, the buildings all gone." W.T. Mote was born 1852.

Hill Cemetery - Located in Harrison township on the farm of Edward L. Rife on Rush Road west of New Madison. This family plot includes names of Downing, Hill, and Spencer. The oldest gravemarker according to Short and Bowers is Elvira Spencer, wife of L. Spencer, died Feb. 28, 1837, aged 30 years, 1 month, 11 days.

Peter Rush Grave - In 1808 Peter and Mary Rush moved to Greenville township, "Peter Rush died on what is known as the Albright farm in Neave township in 1817. His political support was given the Democracy and he was one of the first members of the Universalist church in Darke County. In 1817 Asa Rush with his mother, brothers and sisters, moved onto the farm in Harrison township that had been entered from the government by his father (Peter) just prior to his death." (1900 Bio. of Darke, 363)

Margaret Unger tells that Rush, her great, great grandfather, was buried on the old Landis farm.

Church at Lake School House - At least one, and possibly two congregations held church services at the Lake school. Lillie Schlecty's mother taught Sunday School there in the wooden frame building about 1904 or 1905. Lillie thought it was a Christian Church.

School district #4 board minutes for Nov. 1, 1909, "The church on the school ground has fell back to the school board. It has been moved by Henry Gauby and Second by Jacob Hollinger to sell the church and contents except organ."

In the 1910's or 1920's, probably after Lake school discontinued, Pilgrim Holiness had services in the brick school house. Garnet Wade remembers the preacher's teeth would get loose during his sermons, so he'd take them out and set on the pulpit.

Clark's Station Cemetery, "Old Puterbaugh Cemetery" -According to Anita Short and Ruth Bower's "Cemetery Inscriptions" of Darke County, the oldest burial was Elizabeth Kunkle, daughter of Michael and Mary, who died March 19, 1821 at the age of 8 months, 17 days. Jacob Puderbaugh died September 24, 1822 at the age of 65 years, 1 month, 20 days and is also buried there as well as Elizabeth Hines (or Hinds) who died at age 2 years, 2 months, September 1823.

Other names in the cemetery are Hollinger, Clark, Smelker, Bollinger, Richards, Mikesell, Barnhart, Royer, Smith, Heetel, Piatt, Roberts, Burket, Davis, Windmiller, Blocher, Overman, Merkey.

September 8, 1849, John Puderbaugh deeded to the township trustees, James Clark, Henry Bollinger, Joseph Burket, 80 square rod next to "old burying ground" in NW¼ section 36. (Deed book T-1-94)

Spencer Cemetery - This private cemetery is in section 3 of Harrison township, lays little east of S.E. corner of this section. Located on Harrison Road ¼ mile south of Hollansburg-Arcanum Road, but can't be seen from road as ¾ mile back. Reached by farm land and crossing a fence into woods in which it is situated. The oldest burial is Carolina C. Spencer, daughter of William, died September 25, 1842, aged 2 years, 8 months. (Short & Bowers)

Church at Oakgrove School - Nellie Fowble remembers that a Sunday School and church were held in the afternoons at Oakgrove schoolhouse in about the 1910's. This was nondenominational.

House Cemetery - Virgil Fowble recalls the stones of a House man, woman and child. Emanuel Flory, who used to have a nursery in this area, maintained a wooden fence around the lot and kept fresh flowers on the gravesites. The site has since been farmed over.

Sharpeye Cemetery - The oldest burial according to Anita Short's book is Levi Elston who died 7-18-1822, aged 45 years, 3 months, 8 days.

David Rarick, born January 11, 1822, died May 1824, and Catherine Studebaker, who died September 2, 1846, aged 5 years, are early burials at Sharpeye.

Mt. Pleasant United Brethren Church, "Pin Hook Church" - *History of Randolph County,* 1882, by Tucker, page 160 adds, "Many years ago, the Disciples used to preach at the school house in the neighborhood, but they formed no society. In 1866, the Friends set up a mission school, which proved to be large and full of interest, numbering from sixty to one hundred and twenty. The school was kept for three seasons - 1866, 1867, and 1868. The third summer, a preacher of the United Brethren Church held a meeting there and formed a society of that order. Some of the members have been the Moores, the Slicks, William Parker, Caleb Manning, Lovett Mitchell, George Alexander, Joseph Alexander, John Jackson, Philip Hill, Eli Mettler, Mr. Rankin, William Manning and others. Preachers Milo Bailey, Cranor, Byrd, Gronindisky, Jennings, Small, etc. The society had rather died down, but Rev. James Jennings, a local preacher held a series of meetings during the winter of 1880-81, and revived their work there and is their preacher at the present time. The Sabbath school is active and flourishing. At first the society worshiped in the school house in District No. 1, but when the new brick school dwelling was erected, the church bought the old school edifice and, enlarging it for their purposes, made it into a meeting house, and it has from that time been devoted to use for religious service."

The church is still "in a fairly prosperous state" in 1914 when *Past and Present of Randolph County, Indiana* was published, page 692.

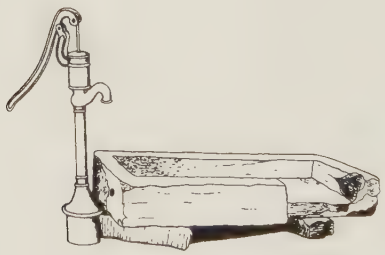
Sugar Grove Christian Church - Sugar Grove Church was on the southeast corner of the first intersection on State Route 36 west of the State line. "Sugar Grove southeast of Spartanburg which was used for meeting purposes until the building was built in Spartanburg. this came into existance when the membership of the 1838 Disciples church at Spartanburg known as Bethpage and stood south of Spartanburg, meeting house log about 1840, membership grew very rapidly and became sufficiently large to justify the building of new church."

The church at Sugar Grove "was built about 1868 and is still occupied by the congregation of that community. "*Past and Present of Randolph County, Indiana,* 1914, page 681.

Norwich Friends Church - "This church was located about a mile southeast of Spartanburg and was built about 1825. The society was discontinued about 1840, or perhaps sooner. The cemetery remains but seldom anyone is buried there at this time." (1914 *History of Randolph County,* page 675)

Cemetery Maintenance - The township treasurer's records for Sept. 1893 show what cemeteries came under the township's care at that time:

Reason Ketring Sept. 2, cleaning Clark Cem. — $4
Wm. Wilcox cleaning St. John Cem. Sept. 2 — $6
Dora Clemens Sept. 11 cleaning Bass Cem. — $6
G.W. Hill cleaning Wesley Chapel Cem. Sept. 11 — $3
A.S. Clemens Sept. 16 cleaning Clemens Cem. — $5
J.G. Norris Aug. 19, cleaning Pal. Cem. — $5
Aug. 19, Fremont Heck cleaning Nashville Cem. — $6

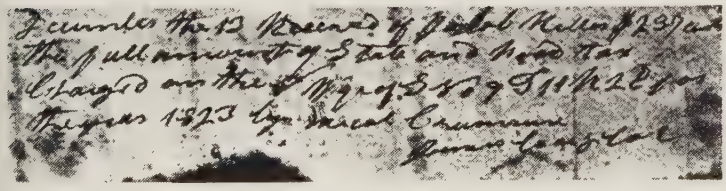


Chapter V
Roads

Early roads in German Township were crooked and winding somewhat as can be seen in the 1857 plat map. Some of these were eventually farmed over like the Lowring Road from Sourkraut school to the Hollansburg Pike, and the road from Baker to Nashville. Others like the Hollansburg-Palestine Road still pretty much as it was originally. Some roads like Clark's Station Road were altered enough to bring them into line with section lines.

The 1880 *History of Darke County* (Neave Twp.) gives this information: "When the inflow of settlers and the organization of the county into townships set in operation a system means of which public improvements could be made, numerous roads were laid, and took up a sinous course around obstructions, and in close proximity to settler's doors. Sparce settlements caused the formation of districts extensive in area and meager in population."

The earliest insight into the county road beginnings comes from page 8 of the 1875 Atlas, "The only roads at this time were those cut out by the armies of St. Clair and Wayne, the paths made by the Indians, or such as were cleared by the settlers in moving to their homes. One of the first acts of the (county) commissioners was to order a road to be viewed and surveyed, leading from Greenville, to cross the bridge at Enos Terry's, and from thence the nearest and best route in direction toward Fort Loramie, until it strikes the county line. David Briggs, David Thompson, and Moses Scott were appointed viewers, and John Beers, surveyor. They were ordered to begin their work on the 26th of June, 1817."



1823 Road Tax Receipt

John Wharry gives a description of the roads as they were in the county in 1824. His description is found on pg. 10 of the Atlas, and page 281 of the 1880 *History of Darke County*. "The roads of the county consisted of the old war 'traces' of St. Clair and Wayne, cut out more than thirty years before (1824), the Indian paths to the Miami on the east, and Whitewater towns west and southwest, and some few other 'traces', as they were called cut out by the early settlers; so that a wagon might possibly get along in a dry time, provided the driver had an axe with him to cut his way around trees which had fallen in the road. A trip with a conveyance on wheels, forth and back to Piqua or Troy, to Lock's mill or Paris, under very favorable circumstances might be made in from three to four days; to Eaton, the Mississinawa, or Recovery in from one to three weeks. Nothing on wheels ever attempted to go to St. Mary's or Laramie; and, if anything of the kind ever went to Winchester, it is said never to have returned."

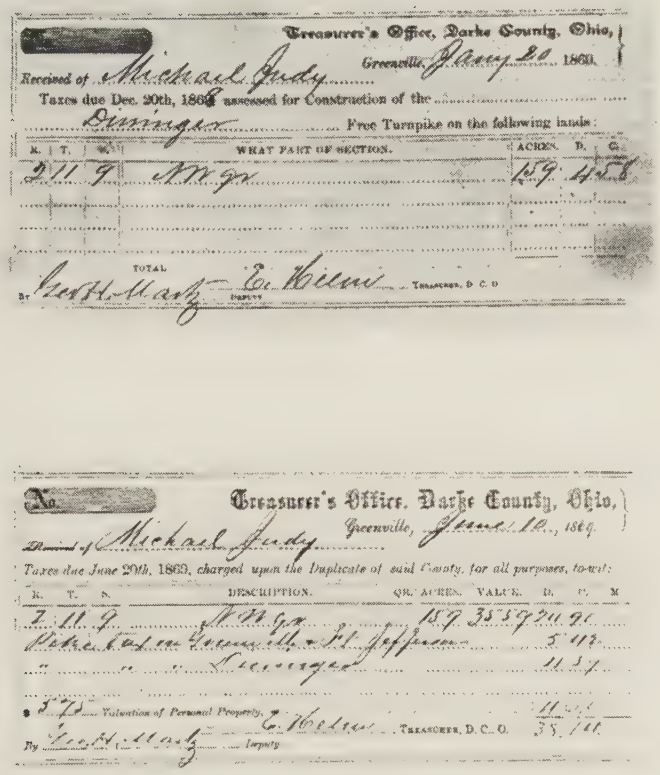
As spring wagons gave way to buggies and carriages, the need to "pike" the roads grew. Turnpikes were roads that were graveled and graded. The term "pike" originated from a pole which was used as a gate to collect tolls, which resembled the medieval lance-like weapon. There were toll houses at the east edge of Palestine, the intersection of Bishop and what is now Greenville-Baker Store Road, and possibly at the intersection of Brumbaugh, Dininger, and what is now Greenville-Palestine roads. These toll houses collected payment for use of the roads or pikes to pay for their improvements.

From *History of Darke County* 1914, page 170, "Strange as it may seem no turnpikes were built before a railway was constructed in the county. The Greenville and Gettysburg pike was the first built, being completed about the same time as the G. & M. Railway. The 'Ithaca Free Turnpike Road' was granted on petition in June, 1858. Ten other free pikes were ordered built between that date and 1868."

Another early method of paying for roads was as assessment made against property owners whose land bordered the affected roadway. Examples of this pike tax are shown by an assessment and receipt made for Michael Judy for the Dininger Road and Greenville-Ft. Jefferson Road. (on next page)

Road Supervisors - Road supervisors existed as early as 1836 when early records indicate at least six.

The township clerk's records show that on Sept. 26, 1838, Jacob Crumrine, Township Treasurer received from Henry D. Williams Treasurer of Darke County for Road Tax for



Treasurer's Office, Darke County, Ohio,
Greenville, January 20 1869.
Received of Michael Judy
Taxes due Dec. 20th, 1868 assessed for Construction of the
Dunnigan Free Turnpike on the following lands:
R. | T. | S. | WHAT PART OF SECTION. | ACRES. | D. | C.
2 | 11 | 9 | NW qr | 159 | 45 | 8
TOTAL
By Fred Hartz Deputy E. Heller Treasurer, D. C. O.

No.
Treasurer's Office, Darke County, Ohio,
Greenville, June 10., 1869.
Received of Michael Judy
Taxes due June 20th, 1869, charged upon the Duplicate of said County, for all purposes, to-wit:
R. | T. | S. | DESCRIPTION. | QR. | ACRES. | VALUE. | D. | C. | M
2 | 11 | 9 | NW qr | | 159 | 3537 | 24 | 90
" | " | " | Pike Co. on Greenville & Ft. Jefferson | | | 5 | 42
" | " | " | Turnpike | | | 11 | 34
Valuation of Personal Property, | | | | | | 11 | 34
By Fred Hartz Deputy E. Heller Treasurer, D. C. O. | | | | | | 35 | 141

1869 Road tax and road assessment receipts.

the year 1838, $9.15.

Road supervisors were selected to serve a year from March to March to care for a road district. There may have been 7 road districts in 1839. In 1854 district 11 is first mentioned in records. Also district 13 is mentioned. District #12 is mentioned in 1857 records. In 1859 there were 14 road districts.

The supervisors for the road districts in 1859 were: district #1 Herod Mills, #2 Manley Wilcox, #3 Milton Jeffers, #4 John N. Davis, #5 Antoney Gray, #6 John Kimerley, #7 William Hiatt, #8 Isaac Miller, #9 Daniel Kester, #10 John C. Davis, #11 Cavin Moore, #12 A. Dickey, #13 Levi Cuningham, #14 Jacob Sinks.

In 1860 the supervisors were: #1 Herrod Mills, #2 William Heck, #3 Samuel Parent, #4 William Wagenor, #5 Henrey Royer, #6 John Kimberling, #7 Joseph Sell, #8 William Rupe, #9 Abraham Kimberling, #10 William L. McClellon, #11 David Roberts, #12 William Crandle, #13 Henry Heck, #14 Ira Q. Sinks.

The township trustees of this period were Loyd Brown, Robert Moore, and George Stingley.

What kind of work was involved for road maintenance at this time? To give some idea the following records from the treasurer's records for 1890 are given to show the rates paid for work done on the A. Sleet Ditch:

J.W. Mills	Plot & Profile Add Sleet ditch	7.00
J.B. Wilcox	3 days service	4.50
Robert Pickens	2 days service	3.00
J.J. McCowin	3 days service	4.50
M.P. Simison	Rodman	1.00
Samuel Elliott	Marker	1.00
A.J. Smith	Axman	1.00

The records show these 1892 rates for work on the roads (pg. 68):

Aaron Petry	scraping Road #6	1.50
M.M. Jefferis	gravel #7	4.32
Virgil McCabe	2 bridges Tampico, Mt. Zion	58.00
J.H. Clemens	bridge lumber #8	6.00
Wm. Wilcox	lumber & labor Bridge & Culvert	7.50
Addison Ketring	Building Culvert #5	2.18
L. Bass	Mowing Clemens Cemetery	.50
J.G. Norris	Cleaning Palestine Cem.	5.00
J.H. Noggle	12 dozen sparrow heads	2.40

Aug. 2, 1895, trustees J.B. Armacost, J.A. Chenoweth, and W.H. Mills divided the $325.00 Pike Repair Fund among the road districts. The Road Supervisors for these districts were: #1 W.E.G. Jefferis, #2 Freemont Heck, #3 Christ. Holzapfel, #4 E.B. Hollinger, #5 G.D. Saylor, #6 Aaron Petry, #7 James Harvey Williamson, #8 Albert Goens, #9 C.C. Clemens, #10 Calven Moore, #11 M. Luther Horn.

In 1896 the road supervisors were: #1 Wm. Jefferis, #2 Freemont Heck, #3 C. Holzapfel, #4 Isaac Dill, #5 G.D. Saylor, #6 John Harter, #7 Jacob Bass, #8 W.H. Goens, #9 Ezra Kern, #10 A.J. Biddle, #11 J.E. Jones.

May 2, 1896 the trustees ordered the following levys to be made for the year 1896: for township purposes 1 mill or $740, for road purposes to be paid in labor 1 mill, for poor purposes 1/8 mill or 97.50, for Pike Repair purposes 3/8 mill or 292.50, for Bridge Purposes 1/8 mill or 97.50, the total levy was 2 5/8 mill of $1227.50.

May 2, 1898, the trustees made the following levy for township; for township purposes 1 mill or 759.01, for road purposes to be paid in labor 8/10 mill or 607.20, for poor purposes 5/10 mill or 379.50, for Pike Repair purposes 3/10 mill or 227.70, and for Mud Road purposes 2/10 mill or 151.80.

The township clerk's records of Aug. 5, 1898, pg. 249, gives the following information on the road districts and supervisors.

"First business was the apportionment of pike repair fund among the several Road Dist's as follows.

Dis.	1	Aaron Enochs	$ 4.00
	2	G.D. Saylor	15.00
	3	Robt. Pickens	47.00
	4	S.F. Metzcar	25.00
	5	Addison Ketring	25.00
	6	Aaron Petrie	25.00
	7	Wm. H. Stokes	35.00
	8	Jacob Burden	40.00
	9	Dora Clemens	33.00
	10	T.P. Lowdenslager	36.00
	11	J.E. Jones	45.00

Road Tax - German township residents used to have to work so much on the roads to pay their poll tax or road tax. One record book for road district number three indicates those who worked on the road in 1915. During this summer they hauled 30 loads of gravel May 13, 39 loads May 14, and 29 loads May 17 from Herschal Jefferis pit. They hauled 42 loads May 25, and 31 loads May 27 from the L.F. Anderson Pit.

Those who labored on the road with teams were Guy Lowdenslager, J.B. Miller, B.F. Bowman, C. Ginger,

Grover Miller, D.B. Miller, Geo. Shaw, Bert Mikesell, Roscoe Koons, W.H. Troutwine, H.D. McCabe, Irvin Royer, Wm. Hoblet, Orville Moore, Wm. Falkner, Isaac Trimble.

Those shoveling in pit were Loyd Poling, Guy Loudenslager, John Mikesell, Chas. Wilcox, P. Rife, B. Tucker, Barney Koons, Fred Anderson. Those shoveling off car were: Haver Peden, Vin Armacost, John Archey, Orla Owens, Fomer Archey, Clyde Moore, D. Archey, Albert Archey, Russ Wolfal, C. Chaney, Norman Ross, James Clemens.

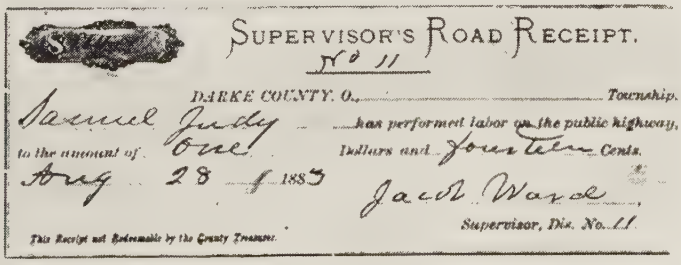
Those working with team hauling gravel were: M.A. Tilson, H.O. Horn, Chas. Owens, Frank Southard, Guy Spencer, Mrs. Horn, Dave Ware, Len Roberts, Dan Albright, C. Loudenslager, Jack Downing, V. Chenoweth, Chas Lilley, V. Teaford, Karl More, I. Miller, Cliff Carpenter, Orvil More, Gold Ross, John Ross, Andy Miller, D.J. Poling, Chess Edwards, A. Koons, H. Jefferis, John Morgan, E. Dill.

Others working included: Charles Owens, Shields, Rod King, H. Marker, N. Long, B. Tucker, E. Gibs.

Horses were used as late as the early 1920's for road work. Gravel would be spread on the road from a horse drawn gravel bed. The wagon had a floor of 4" x 4" light wood with shaped handles on each end. These 4 x 4's were laid crossways across the wagon bed, and as the wagon moved along, one person on each end of the 4 x 4 plank would walk it off the wagon and some more gravel would spill out onto the road. This was repeated until the wagon of gravel had been spread.

"Since most of the roads were of gravel, they were maintained by the Township Trustees by means of road taxes, which could be worked out at the rate of about $2.00 a day for a man with shovel, or about $3.00 a day for a man with team and wagon. The old high-wheeled wagons were equipped with gravel beds, each holding a good yard of gravel, which would be dumped in a continuous line down the center of the road, one load adjoining another, end to end. Dad used to work out his road tax this way, and sometimes he and I would work extra days for pay, after I was old enough to 'make a hand'." Thomas K. Wenrick)

The township bought a Greenville Manufact truck around 1923 or 24. Raymond Wade worked during this time driving the truck. The bed was a "V" shaped gravel bed with two doors that could be pulled out to release the gravel. The cab of the truck had no doors.


SUPERVISOR'S ROAD RECEIPT.
No 11
DARKE COUNTY, O., Township.
Samuel Judy has performed labor on the public highway,
to the amount of One Dollars and Fourteen Cents.
Aug 28 1883
Jack Ware
Supervisor, Dis. No. 11
This Receipt not Redeemable by the County Treasurer.

Trustee Duties - Aside from caring for the roads, the trustees also took care of the cemeteries, cared for the poor, and appointed township officers.

Aug. 7, 1899, Elmer Jefferis appointed as German township constable to replace resigning J.G. Norris.

March 5, 1901, payment for physician services to A.A. Gorbold, T.L. North, and E.E. Landis. Nov. 2, 1901, Dr. T. Leroy North appointed township health officer. Dr. Chas. Baker paid Nov. 1, 1902. Nov. 5, 1898, Dr. A.A. Gorbold was appointed health officer of German township.

June 1, 1901, W.E. Kester paid $27.00 for cost of gates around Palestine Cemetery.

Aug. 1, 1898, the trustees agreed to give F.P. Harding one dollar per ft. for digging and completing the well at Nashville, Ohio. The Washington township agreeing to pay half of the expense for said well. In 1900 they paid Daniel Slick for digging the well in Glenn Karn, and bought well casing from Knapp Supply Co.

In 1897, the trustees appointed James Harding and I.M. Ross as fruit commissioners for German township.

The eleven road supervisor districts eventually gave way to three road districts which were looked after by the trustees.

Early Equipment - Township trustee records books provide a glimpse at early road care:

Feb. 1, 1896, F.P. Harding paid $2.75 for repairing scraper.

The trustees bought three wheel scoops of Slad A. Brandon in 1898 for $25.

July 22, 1899, Harter Road to be graded and graveled.

June 6, 1903, Ross and Jefferis sold the trustees one one-horse mower for $35.

The township bought one $3.75 lawn mower from Ross and Jefferis in 1906.

April 6, 1907, Isaac B. Miller paid $7.50 for 3 days scraping roads, Ed Loudenslager paid $5.00 for 2 days scraping roads, M.L. Horn paid $6.25 for 2½ days scraping roads with horse teams.

April 7, 1913, Joel Aukerman was paid $6.00 for making road drags.

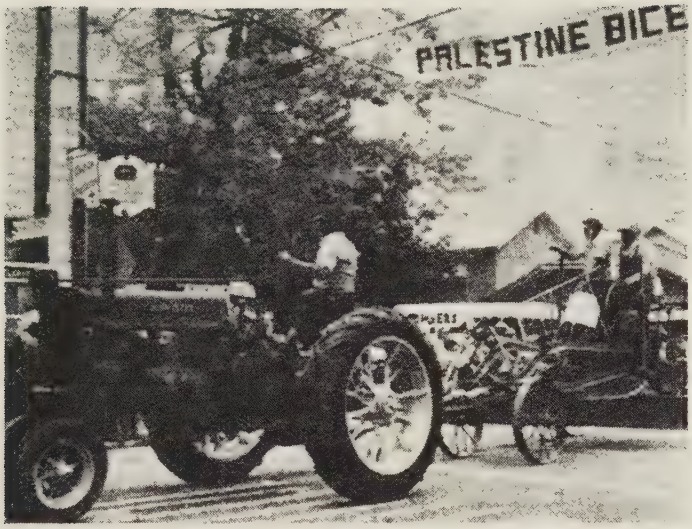
March 26, 1907, the trustees paid $200.00 for a road grader and $6.40 for one grader blade to the Indiana Road Machine Company.

July 6, 1908, bought a steel rake from J.C. Ross for $25.00.

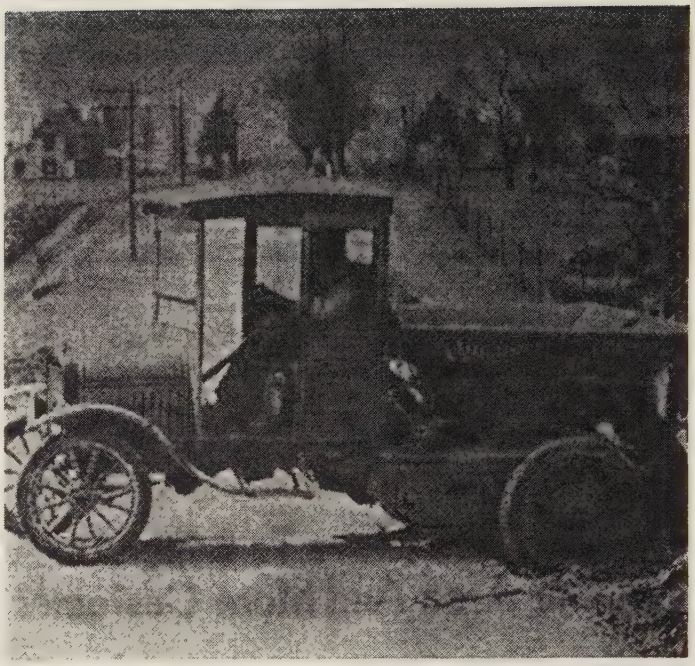
Sept. 1, 1919, John Parent paid $2.80 for street oiling.

Mowing of cemeteries is mentioned in township records as early as 1885. In the clerk's records beginning 1885, gravel and tile were being used on the roads, and road scoops were being used. Road signs were not put up until the 1950's at which time some roads lost their old names. Many roads were named according to original petitions to the county commissioners to have the roads graveled. In the 1970's, the numbering system was installed for addresses.

Gravel - The trustees bought gravel for the roads locally. The trustees bought gravel from the Norman Teaford Pit Sept. 2, 1902. July 1903, the trustees contracted with James H. Clemens to pay him $40.00 for opening a good gravel pit on his farm and pay him 15¢ per yard for all gravel hauled from his pit and for him to keep pit in good shape. In 1904,



Road Grader - pulled in June 19, 1976 Bicentennial celebration. Liberty township trustees Otis Rismiller, Paul Runner, Maze Clemens, Clerk Mary Alice Brewer, and Chalmer Harding riding with parade entry.



Omort trucks - Greenville Manufacturing made the frame and body, assembled the trucks, and sold them from 1923 until 1945.

the trustees contracted with Addison Ketring for gravel pit. In 1906, contracted with Norman Teaford for gravel from his pit.

Raymond S. Hollinger fills in some of the road history with his letter:

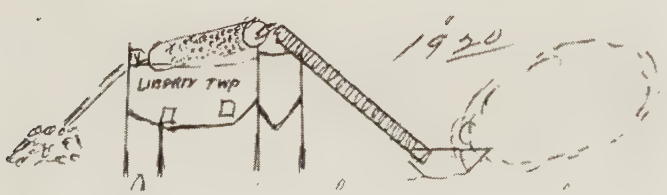
"My work in Liberty Township and Palestine involving the gravel business has been very interesting.

"In 1920 we had many miles of muddy roads in fall and spring, rough and dusty in summer.

"The year 1920-21 brings memories of Bert Mikesell using two nice horses to power the 'horse hack' school bus with the lines coming in through the windshield. The roads from Beech Grove Church to Hollansburg were almost impassable.

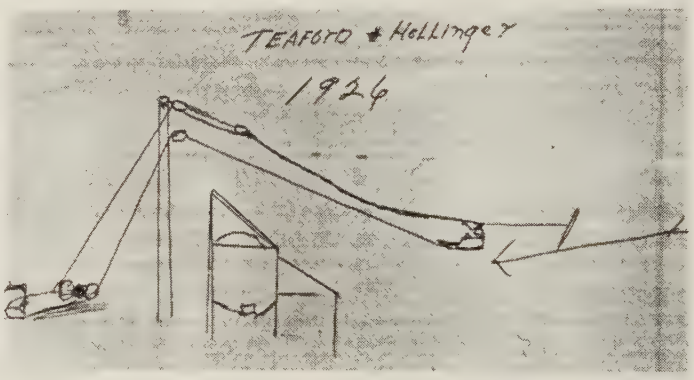
"Liberty Township was very progressive, always looking forward to new ways for improvement using locally available products.

"In the early 20's the Township Trustees bought a portable gravel screening plant and installed it on the M.A. Teaford farm. The plant was powered by a gasoline engine and charged with teams of horses pulling slip-scoops. Four wagons could be loaded at one time from the tipple. A few years later trucks replaced the wagons drawn by horses.



"Improving the roads was the goal for the trustees elected in the fall of 1925 - Jesse Ross, Wm. Hollinger and Roy Edwards. They secured a road grader for each trustee to maintain the roads making a need for a faster and more efficient way to get gravel on the roads.

"An agreement between the trustees and Mr. Teaford resulted in updating the gravel equipment in 1926. With the help of Carmen Jefferies, they designed a plant using a



Sauerman slackline cableway powered by a Fordson tractor. This equipment produced 100 yards of gravel a day - in the tipple. The trustees purchased two used OMort trucks for hauling and maintaining the roads.

"Some of the early drivers of these trucks were: Raymond Wade, Kenneth Baker, Lonnie and Roscoe Miller, and Orville Groendyke, Jesse Miller of Hollansburg was the mechanic. M.A. Teaford and his family - Zene & Louise Teaford Hiatt worked the plant for several years.

"Later, Earl Skinner of Lynn, Indiana put some steam powered equipment in at Helen Grahams Park on Stingley Road.

"In 1933 when Zene Teaford decided he would rather farm I started working for Mr. Teaford. The next year he sold the equipment and business to me. We delivered gravel to Washington, Liberty, and Harrison Townships. That year the Ohio Transportation Department (Highway Department) filled the sink hole on Rt. 36 west and used our gravel.

"By 1940 the gravel was almost depleted on the Teaford farm so we purchased the farm where Jewell Ashby lives then known as the Aukerman farm. We moved the equip-

ment there and operated it for several years.

"In the meantime we had opened a gravel pit near New Madison and are continuing operations with the help of our son Tom who does most of the bulldozing and excavating. The cableways have been replaced by dragline shovels, and Kohlman conveyors for more efficient productions.

"We value our friends at Palestine and vicinity and wish you the very best as you celebrate this Anniversary."

Raymond Hollinger

U.S. Route "36" - Samuel Parent Sr. settled on section 13 of German Township in 1817 or 1818. "...the excellent turnpike which now crosses the farm was then only an Indian trail, and the 'feeble sons of the bow and arrow' still lingered about..." (1880 *History of Darke County,* p. 583).

Thus, the early beginnings of this road between Palestine and Greenville. Indeed, for a long period of time this route ran north and south on the present Bishop and Bakerstore-Greenville Roads. This north-south route closely followed another old Indian Trail along the west side of the annually swamped area along Mud Creek. The reason the route did not cross Mud Creek was due to this swampy prairie, which had no trees due to both the flooded conditions and the burning of the prairie area by Indians to hunt.

In 1845 Rt. 36 had many travelers traveling east, walking, horseback, ox carts, going to sign up to get in the Mexican War.

Greenville-Palestine Turnpike road marker.

One early route from Palestine to Greenville probably followed the present Greenville-Palestine Road from Baker. This road used to continue northeast from the present intersection of Dininger, and Brumbaugh Roads. Herman Ross says there used to be a toll house at this location.

Several references were given to 'Bishop Road' and the 'Public Road' in early township records. It is believed that these referred to the Greenville-Palestine Turnpike, alias 36; because part of the old 36 was on what is Bishop Road in Greenville and Neave Townships.

As late as 1895, the treasurer kept separate records for the Pike fund and the Bishop Pike fund.

From these records, page 72, Robert Clemens was paid $4.90 for gravel on Bishop Road in 1892. Page 90 shows J.C. Burnes paid $3.00 tax on Bishop Pike in 1894. Page 92 shows J.W. Clemens paid $10.08 taxes on Bishop Pike, July 1894.

Bishop Road got its name from William F. Bishop: "...in 1842, he came to Darke Co. and purchased 217 acres of land upon Section 9, (& Sec. 3) southwest of Greenville, where he lived until 1865, when he purchased his present residence on Fourth street, where he has since lived, retired from active business." (1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 477)

The reason for separate records on the Greenville-Palestine Pike or Bishop Pike, was that it was a toll road. The toll house on the west end of the turnpike was located, as the 1875 plat shows, at the eastern edge of Palestine on the south side of the road.

The 1875 plat locates the eastern toll house on W.F. Bishop's land west of where Bishop Road turns east. As the 1875 plat indicates only the northern route from this toll house was at that time graveled; most traffic probably continued northward to the Winchester Pike for their route into Greenville.

Some of the first records of the Greenville-Palestine Turnpike are from the old 'Greenville Journal':

Palestine Turnpike Company, Wednesday 21 Feb. 1855 -"The preliminary steps have been taken to organize this company. Articles of incorporation have been entered into and as soon as possible books will be opened for subscription of stock.

"Nothing was effected by the meeting at Palestine on Monday last. The parties could agree to no arrangements by which the Braffettsville Company would undertake the work. Persons interested in that road, however, will subscribe just as liberally as though the extension here was managed by their own board. We think we may depend certainly upon the early and complete success of the enterprise."

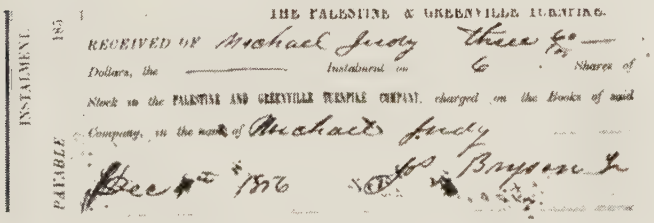
"Greenville Journal" Wednesday 14 March 1855 -"Notice: The incorporators of the Palestine and Greenville Turnpike Company will open books for the reception of stock on Friday the 23rd day of March 1855 at Palestine at the store of J.G. Norris and William C. Deem's office; also at George Elston's residence in Washington Township. Also at the store of Brumbaugh and Baker in Neave Township and at Greenville at Weston and Ullery Hardware Store and H.C. Garst and Bertch's stores.

Incorporators: John Hiller, Isaiah Miley, John M. Grimes, Michael Hannish, J.F. Bertch, William C. Deem, J.G. Norris, S.W. Ullery 2-21-1855."

The March 1912 issue of "The Darke County Boy" gave this information on the Greenville and Palestine Turnpike

of 1856:

"Those who subscribed to build it and the amount of their subscriptions follow: John L. Winner $200, Hart & Arnold $100, Long & Hutchins $100, S.W. Ullery $100, W.A. Weston $100, J.W. Frizell $50, Obrist & Grover $100, Abraham Swisher $100, John C. Glines $25, H.C. Garst $50, Dr. E. Lynch $25, Jno. G. Fisher $25, Charles Fletcher $25, John Tomlinson $25, William Oswalt $25, Joseph Oppenheimer $25, Chas. W. Tate $500, Tumer Brothers $500, Wm. Devor $25, Bachman & Long $25, Joseph Taylor $25, Martin Ullery $25, E.B. Putman $25, W.M. Mitchell $25, D.M. Stephenson $50, S.H. Robinson $25, Geo. W. Coover $25, G.A. Katzenberger $75, E.B. Taylor $50, John H. Compton $25, Wm. Allen $25, Eli Helm $25, Schmidt & Davis $50, Jacob Merritt $25, Chas. Biltemeier $25, James R. King $25, Thomas P. Turpen $25, James McKahn $25, J.C. Katzenberger $25, Stephan Allen $25, Thos. W. Hamilton $25, Sol Schlenker $25, David Beers $25, I.R.K. Wise $25, Dr. I.N. Gard $100, Wm. Kipp $25, George Holtry $25, John Morris $25, Jos. Brush $25, Jacob Landis Jr. $25, Wm. C. Deem $25, John G. Morris $25, David Bryant $200, Peter Weaver $225, Henry Warner $25, Jacob Miller $40, Henry Beachler $150, James McCabe $25, Gabriel Weaver $25, Chas. Wilcox $25, Jonathon Teaford $25, Barney Teaford $25, John F. Guyer $25, Larsh Brothers $25, Pitzenberger & Baker $100, Henry Knee $50, Jacob Burdge $25, J.F. Bertch $50, Geo. W. Bloom $25, J.P. Pilkey $25, Workman & Daily $50, Jeremiah Ries $50, James Bryson $300, Geo. Brumbaugh $400, Robert Devor $250, James Grimes $125, Michael Judy $150, Wm. Morningstart $250, W.F. Bishop $200, Jacob Heffner $209.50, Benj. Garst $50, Jacob Landis $150, Jacob Beatty $100, Henry Vantilburgh $50, Thompson L. Bishop $100, John McCabe $100, John Sink $75, Brumbaugh & Baker $200, Jacob Crumrine $50, Geo. Wagner $50, John M. Lutz $75, John Bowman $25, Joseph Bryson $50, Jacob Pitsenberger Jr. $100, Jacob Pitsenberger Sr. $500, Abraham Rhoades $100, Peter Frank $100, Caleb Sink $25, Michael Kunkle $25, Lewis Bryson $200, George Teaford $25, Elias Ross $25, George Miller $50, David Wilcox $25, Paul H. Larsh $25, Manlius Wilcox $25, Milton Rush $25. (Totaling $8,649.50)


THE PALESTINE & GREENVILLE TURNPIKE.

INSTALMENT. 185

RECEIVED OF Michael Judy Three ^{00}/$_{100}$

Dollars, the ——— Instalment on 6 Shares of

Stock in the PALESTINE AND GREENVILLE TURNPIKE COMPANY, charged on the Books of said

Company, in the name of Michael Judy

PAYABLE Dec^{r} 1856 Wm Bryson Jr

"Most of the subscriptions were paid in full. Some were paid in part and some were never paid according to the books found among the personal effects of the late Joseph Bryson and loaned to the "Darke County Boy" by his nephew, J.C. Bryson."

Although the Greenville-Palestine Turnpike itself only went as far as Palestine, page 143 of the township treasurer's records show, "Trustees of said Township met this day and ordered the clerk to advertise the letting of a contract for the building of a bridge on dirt road, about ¼ of a mile west of Tampico, in said Township." Thus, as late as May 25, 1888, the road west of Tampico was still ungraveled. An 1870 deed makes reference to the Palestine-Tampico Turnpike.

Oliver Lee (O.L.) Perry was county commissioner 1916-1920.

O.L. Perry and Herschel Jefferis were instrumental in the 1920's in getting 36 to go through Palestine. They went to Columbus to lobby for 36 when discussion, for awhile, was leaning toward having the state route go through Union City. Greenville-Palestine Pike became State Route 36 in 1922. Marion Perry adds that it was this period when it was put in the books for 36 to run through the prairie (to 121) as it does now. It took about 50 years to accomplish!

VOTE FOR

Oliver L. Perry

FOR

County Commissioner

SECOND TERM

Election November 5, 1918

Greenville Nashville Road - Also known in earlier times as Squaw Road, Old State Road, Cable Pike, and Nashville Pike, this road seems to have had an interesting background.

The earliest history would be the Indian trail from Nashville villages to Muncie in the west and Greenville or Indian Town on the Mud Creek to the east.

The 1914 *History of Randolph County, Indiana,* page 36, gives this information on the Indian Trail:

"When the first white settlers entered the boundaries of what is now Randolph county, there were no roads, not even trails, except one or two made by the Indians in their travels

W.A. and Pearl Jefferis west of Nashville around 1900.

from one village to another. The principal Indian village in eastern Indiana was at 'Mont-See-Town', where the city of Muncie now stands. Another was near Camden, Jay county, and the third colony was in or near Greenville, Ohio. The trails that crossed the county led from Mont-See-Town to Greenville and from Greenville to Godfroy's, near Camden. The Mont-See-Town-Greenville trail was traveled more than the other, because the Delaware Indians of Mont-See-Town and Strawtown (now Anderson) went to Greenville to receive the bounty which the government paid them after the Treaty of Peace in 1795 at that place. This trail crossed the county somewhere near Windsor, Huntsville, Springborough and South Bartonia. This, of course, is only approximate, as no definite records of this trail have been left by either record or tradition. Jesse Way, one of our earliest settlers, claimed that Springborough was south of the trail. Jere Smith claimed that the trail passed near Springborough. Each of these men were thoroughly familiar with the early times, so we see that a definite location of this trail is impossible. Relative to this subject, Tucker says: 'On the third road (Winchester to Bloomingsport) is a point of some interest, Joseph Gass.' Mr. Smith says: 'His house stood on the north side of a brushy prairie in section 29, Town 19, Range 14, some three miles north of Bloomingsport. He built there in early days on the main Indian trail between Muncie (an Indian town at that time) to Greenville, where the Indian annuities were paid from Wayne's treaty in 1795 to 1815 or 1816, at which time the place of payment was changed from Greenville to Fort Wayne. The Indians traveled from Muncie (which they called Mont-see-town) up White river on the south side till they crossed Prairie Creek at its mouth. They then took a 'bee line' for Greenville, which none but an Indian can do. The trail passed north of Huntsville and Spartanburg, and was about as straight as a surveyor could have made it. The trace was quite a plain one and was much traveled even by whites in those days.

" 'Joseph Gass was a brother of the Gass who went with Lewis and Clarke across the continent to the mouth of the Columbia River (1805-07) and who published a journal which he kept on that expedition. Joseph Gass built and settled on that trace at that point when there was no white settler from six miles west of Greenville to 'Mont-see-town', and he lodged travelers who passed on that trace, and hence his house was a noted place to mention on the route of that road. Mr. Smith says he had often seen him and the house he built there.

" 'The town of Springboro was afterward laid out February 15, 1834, at the point where Joseph Gass lived, but the town was not a success, and it is now extinct.

" 'Mr. Gass probably settled there before he entered his land. He was there when the 'Way Company' came through from Carolina to White River, March, 1817. But the date of his land entry is August 11, 1817. How much earlier than March, 1817, Mr. Gass settled at that place we are not able to state. He seems to have been one of that enterprising class quite common in those days, whose activity took the form of trading with the Indians, which, perhaps, might have been well enough except that it often included the practice of selling strong drink to the poor redmen. That business, whether among white men or Indians, however, lucrative it may be to the trader, brings evil and only evil to him who uses the fearful fluid. And as now, so of old, the traffic is strong drinks was one great source of trouble between the settlers and the savages. A sober Indian was commonly

peaceable but a drunken savage was an object of fear and dread.' "

There are a few references to the Indian Trail in Ohio also.

"Early in 1810, came from Pickaway Plains, below Circleville, on the Scioto, James Rush, Henry Rush, Andrew Rush and Henry Creviston, and settled, the two first-named at and adjoining the Prophet's town, on Mud Creek, Andrew Rush on the West Branch, where it was crossed by what was known as the 'Squaw Road' or Delaware Path." (1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 216)

"With the Rush brothers, came their brother-in-law, John Hiller, and settled on the West Branch, adjoining Andrew Rush." (1880 History, pg. 216)

"Archibald Bryson settled on the east side of the West Branch, above and south of the Squaw road, and east of him, toward Mud Creek, were located Jon Whitacre, John Embree,...and David Marsh..." (1880 History, pg. 225)

"The widow of Andrew Rush, with her two children, the oldest of whom was born November 28, 1809, lived on the West Branch where it was crossed by the 'Squaw Road'." (1880 History, pg. 222)

The Darke County Court of Common Pleas records Book A-1-3 indicates that Peter and Andrew Rush of Pickaway County, Ohio bought the NW¼ of section 31 twp. 12 Range 2E, June 1, 1811. John Hiller bought this NW¼ from Peter Rush in 1811.

May 1, 1812, Peter Rush bought the south ½ of section 31, township 12, range 2E according to Book A-1-10.

Following the road history as an Indian trail came the rivalry for a state road from Greenville to the Indiana state line. It was a contest between the "Squaw Road through Nashville and one near the present Wildcat known as the 'Jersey Settlement' road. A compromise became the present State Route 502. Thus in the 1810's or 1820's was State Road.

Deed records indicate that in the 1800's, this road was known as the Cable Pike. Old man Cable lived at the top of the incline, and he had a watering hole, where people would water their horses after the climb (where Gary and Homer Miller live now).

Jersey Trail - Wildcat Road was known as Jersey Trail, and the following accounts are from a 1933 "Greenville Advocate".

"Another vital link in Darke County's pioneer development was the old 'Jersey Trail' now known as the Wildcat Road, which for over a century has carried Washington township farmers to and from market centers.

"Once put a crooked path through virgin wood, the byway derived its original name from the numerous New Jersey immigrants who settled in the vicinity, and it was not until years later that the hunting exploits of David Wasson brought a new title. Wasson was without a peer as a marksman, and before his unerring aim fell numerous wildcats, black bears, scores of smaller fur bearing animals and deer too numerous to mention. He brought from the government with money he received for animal pelts.

"Godfrey Kaucher in the good old days was a mighty fine hunter, and in Section 9, near the farm of David Wasson, helped him to win for that neighborhood the title of 'Wildcat', by chasing those 'varmints' from their lairs in the dismal swamps.

"Today the Wildcat road is straight as an arrow as it follows in east and west sectional line continuing to provide neighborhood farmers with a suitable outlet to more populous regions."

Grif Eidson relates that Mr. Noll told him the original road "Jersey Road" ran by the houses shown on the 1857 plat where Noll, Elston, Flatter houses were located, a little north of 502. This road probably only went as far as Sourkraut Creek. It was between this road and Nashville road that the 502 route was a compromise.

Winchester Pike - Page 326 of the 1880 *History of Darke County* provides the most accurate look at the early beginnings.

"The location of the roads was not always according to the unanimous wishes of the settlers, and as an instance, we give the history of what was known as the 'Western or Winchester road', which caused considerable strife and difficulty. The settlers west of Greenville joined in a petition to the Commissioners for a county road from Greenville to the State line in the direction of Winchester. A view was ordered; viewers met, started at or near the mouth of Mud Creek, ran nearly direct until they intersected the old Indian trace leading from the Indian town on Mud Creek to Muncie, Ind. This was at the crossing of the West Branch, from which they ran as close as practicable with the old trace to the State line. This location did not satisfy all parties to the petition, and another party arose. Names were bestowed upon each. The first was known as the Squaw road party, the other the Jersey road. The latter petitioned for a road to run a course about a mile north of the other; their petition was granted. There were not two roads, and each party, emulating the other, set to work to open the respective roads. Not long after, an order was received from the Legislature to lay out and establish a State road from Troy via Greenville to the State line. In the mean time Randolph County, Ind. had laid out a road from Winchester to the State line, ending at the corner of a section about midway between the two Ohio roads. The state viewers learning at Greenville of the two roads and the strife, ran their line midway to strike the Indiana road, and in proportion as the one party rejoiced the other was displeased. The line is now the Greenville and State Line turnpike. Soon the defeated party petitioned at Columbus for change of location; it was granted without delay or investigation, and for a number of years the Squaw road was traveled as the State road. Partially foiled, the Jerseys went to work vigorously to open and put in repair their road. It thus happened that there were two roads running parallel not a mile apart. The rival roads were maintained a score of years, much to the public disadvantage. As a finality there came an order from the Legislature to lay a State road from the branch of Mad River in Champaign County via Piqua and Greenville to the State line. This was located on the track of the former road, and the difficulty was thus finally settled."

The 1914 *History of Randolph County,* page 369, adds, "In May, 1820, viewers were appointed to mark out a road from Winchester to the state line, near Foster's (Griffis farm). The road was reported and established in August, 1820. John Coates was made supervisor from Winchester to the ford of White river, and Amos Peacock from White river to the state line. In 1822 or 1823 the Legislature

authorized the laying of a state road from the state line near Foster's, through Winchester to Indianapolis...."

Old Wagon Trail - "Let me tell you first, that the old wagon trail from Greenville came to Baker Store, then a trading post, and continued on through the home farm (Wagner homestead) and past the buildings, on the high ground, of course. We have told you that the surveys had been made in 1825, which designated where the roads would be later. For many years the roads were not built. On the wagon trail farther south a log school house had been built..." (E.T. Wagner "Wagner History")

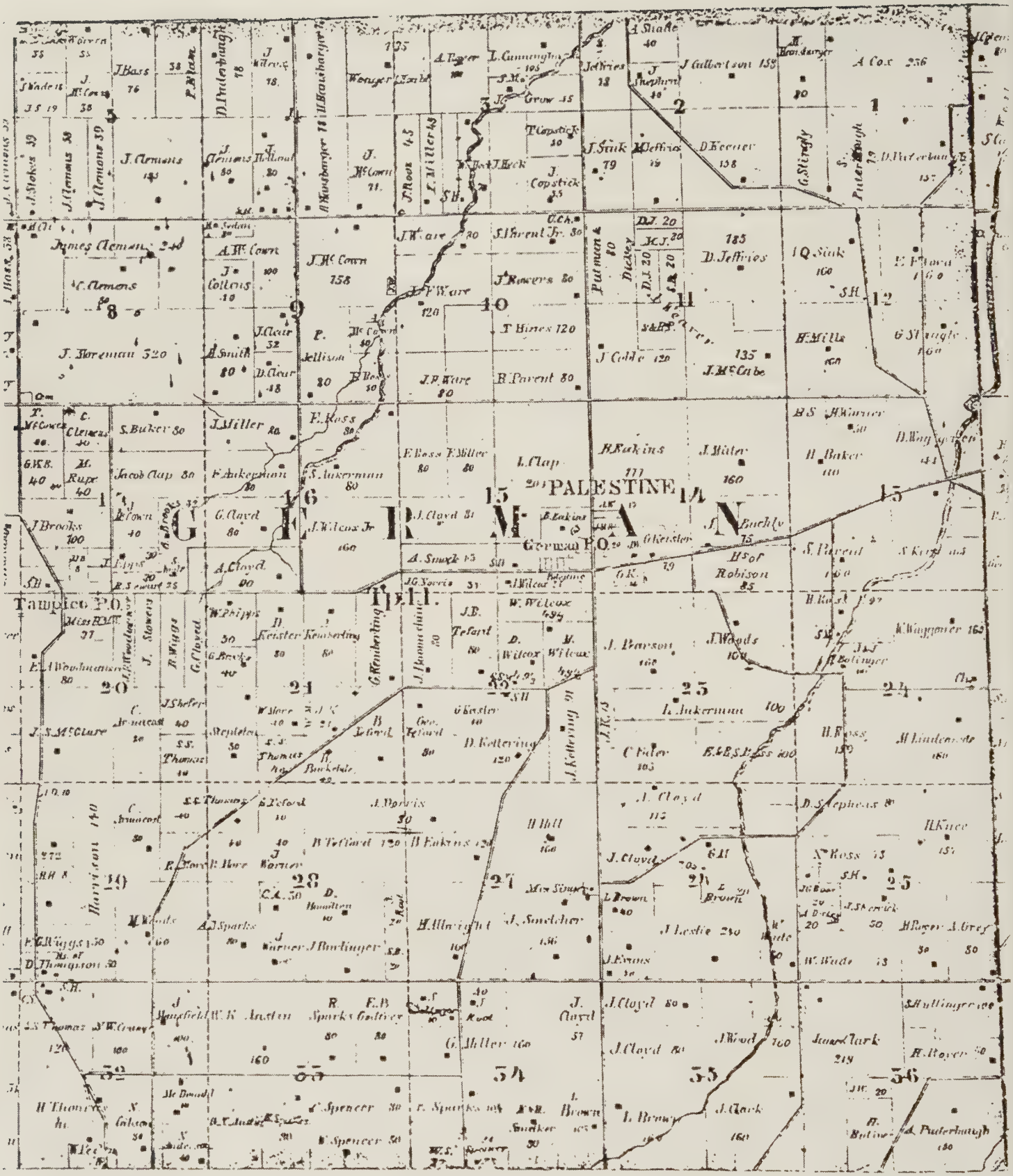
This wagon trail may have extended further south as Orla Riegle thinks an old road used to run NNE through Bill Wilt's (section 35) Hangen's orchard (section 36) Bollinger's (section 25) back of Charlie Hittle on Sellman's (section 25) and Orla's dad - Sam Riegle's farm. Orla said there was a narrow strip of old stones that were always there whenever these farms were plowed. This path could have tied into the wagon trail E.T. Wagner talks about, and into Hollinger Road.

Weaver-Ft. Jefferson Road - Some local people referred to this as the Weaver Station Road, but this does conflict with another Weaver Station Road running north and south in Neave township. Ft. Jefferson village was laid out in 1818. The fort was built in 1791. Peter Weaver, who came from Butler County, Ohio in 1819, built the first house in Weaver's Station. This town acquired its name from Peter Weaver, and possibly the P.C. and S.L. railroad running through the town.

Whitewater Road - The 1875 *Atlas of Darke County* uses the Whitewater Road as a reference line for the division between German and Washington townships. "Sept. 7, 1820, Washington Township was made to include all of townships 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 R.1. In December, 1820, German Township was taken from the south end of Washington. It included the greater part of T 11 N, but was bounded on the north by a line 40 rods north of the White River road." (1875 Atlas, page 17)

"German Township was formed in Dec. 1820, and was bounded on the east, south, and west by the Congressional township lines, and on the north by a line 40 rods north of the Whitewater road, and following the turns thereof. In June, 1827, German Township was made to include all of T. 11 N., as it does to-day. In Dec. 1833, the northern tier of

Cornelius O'Brien Road Crew - taken 1893 at Bechtol farm where West Branch crosses the Nashville Road. Cornelius O'Brien Sr. contractor probably in front of surrey with white shirt, vest, derby hat with hands on hips. His son J. Joseph O'Brien on left front with big hat holding lines. His son R. Emmett O'Brien on right front in white shirt at head of team. Photo contributed by T.W. O'Brien, son of Joe O'Brien, great-grandson of Cornelius O'Brien.



1857 German Township

sections was thrown into Washington Township, but was taken back in Dec. 1834." (1875 Atlas, page 14)

The 1880 Beers *History of Darke County* adds this report: "Located in the west tier of townships and in the second tier from the south. It has been formed since December, 1820. Its lands were taken from the south part of Washington and

the north part of Harrison, the north tier of sections in the last named township being added. Then the northern boundary was a line running some forty rods north of the Whitewater road. In June, 1827, it was reduced to its present size, which includes all of Town 11 north, Range 1 east." (page 445)

Palestine-Hollansburg Road - This old road, still much as it was originally, following its crooked path up and down hills from point of origin to point of destination.

Cornelius O'Brien lived east of Baker Store and was a road and ditch contractor, having moved to Darke County about 1854. He contracted into the 1880's and is thought to have built the Palestine-Hollansburg Road; gotten the contract to pike this road, that is grade, drain, ditch, and gravel. Cornelius and his crew used horses, wagons, and slip scoops. In early days, before gas taxes, people within one mile of a road were assessed a per cent of the cost to pike.

September 22, 1892 township clerk's records, page 231, show the trustees issued Barney Teaford seven dollars and forty seven cents for labor and tile across Hollansburgh Pike. Thus we see the road referred to as Hollansburgh Pike.

Homer Ross helped to widen the road about 1926.

Richmond-Palestine, Palestine-Union City Road - John and Mary Shively Snell of Hamilton, Ohio "moved to Washington Township, Darke County, Ohio, Jan. 14, 1817, making the first wagon track on the west side of the second branch of Greenville Creek, from south of what is now Nashville to Sharp Eye; the country was all wilderness, and for six months Mrs. Snell never saw the face of a white woman, but Indians were numerous, and wild game of every description; deer were more plenty than sheep are to-day; the first schoolhouse had yet to be built, and for many years the first elements of education were hard to obtain." (1880 *History of Darke County,* page 756)

Thurman House notes that the Palestine-Union City Road just south of Nashville near the low area there is built over corduroy road. Page 271, 172 of 1880 History gives this description of such roads, "Little of the land was fences, and roads were made in every direction according to individual fancy, and without regard to land lines, the one object being to shun wet land and the larger logs. When any part of the road became almost impassable, improvement was made by laying poles or rails across the track and throwing upon them dirt to keep them down; to repair one rod of such road was considered a day's work. As poor a makeshift as this was, it was the best that could be done in those days."

As the road would settle into the undrained, organic soil, more logs would be added to the road.

1867 deeds refer to the Richmond-Palestine Road as the Braffetsville and New Paris Turnpike Road and the Palestine, Braffetsville, New Paris, and New Westville Turnpike.

The Palestine-Union City Road may have been what was known as the Putman Road as the 1857 plat shows Putman and Dickey owning 80 acres on this road. Page 235 of the township clerk's records show that the trustees issued four dollars for Dora Clemens for lumber on the Putman Road, Nov. 5, 1892.

Harrison Road, Loring Road - In 1857, known as Loring's Road, probably named after Samuel Loring who settled the area of Palestine about 1816 and later laid out the town of Palestine. On the 1857 map, Loring Road runs all the way to Hollansburg-Palestine Road. Now the Harrison Road stops at Weavers-Ft. Jefferson Road.

Harrison may have been named after Harrison township, thus William Henry Harrison. Or of the O.E. Harrison formerly state senator and assistant prosecutor in Dept. of Justice, who for some time was principal in Hollansburg School. (1914 History)

Stack Road - Probably named for Martin Stack shown living on this road in 1875 and 1888 plats.

Clark's Station Road - In 1857 this road only went as far as route 36, but now extends to the Stingley Road. It has also been straightened out with the section lines, as was originally more crooked. James Clark owned land in sections 35 and 36. Other namesake's of Clark's were Clark's Station, Clark's Cemetery, and Clark's School.

This road was probably earlier known as the Hollinger Road. The township clerk's records, page 202 records, "At a meeting of the Joint Board of Trustees of Harrison and German Twps. at New Madison Ohio July 13, 1891, the said Twps. agreed to pay the costs in Locating the Hollinger Road - the clerk was ordered to issue the following orders viz.

David Wilcox	viewer 1 day service	1.50
M.P. Simison	Surveyor & clerks fees	6.50
D. Putman	Rodman	1.00
J.B. Wilcox	3 days service as trustee	4.50
Robt. Pickens	3 days service as trustee	4.50
J.H. Nogle	2 days serve as trustee	3.00
Harrison Twp. to make costs equal		2.50
	Total	23.50

Moses Hollinger lived in Harrison township, and an old road went by his residence and angled into what is now Clark's Station Road. A lane still exists past where Kevin Hollinger now lives tracing the old road on the west side of the house.

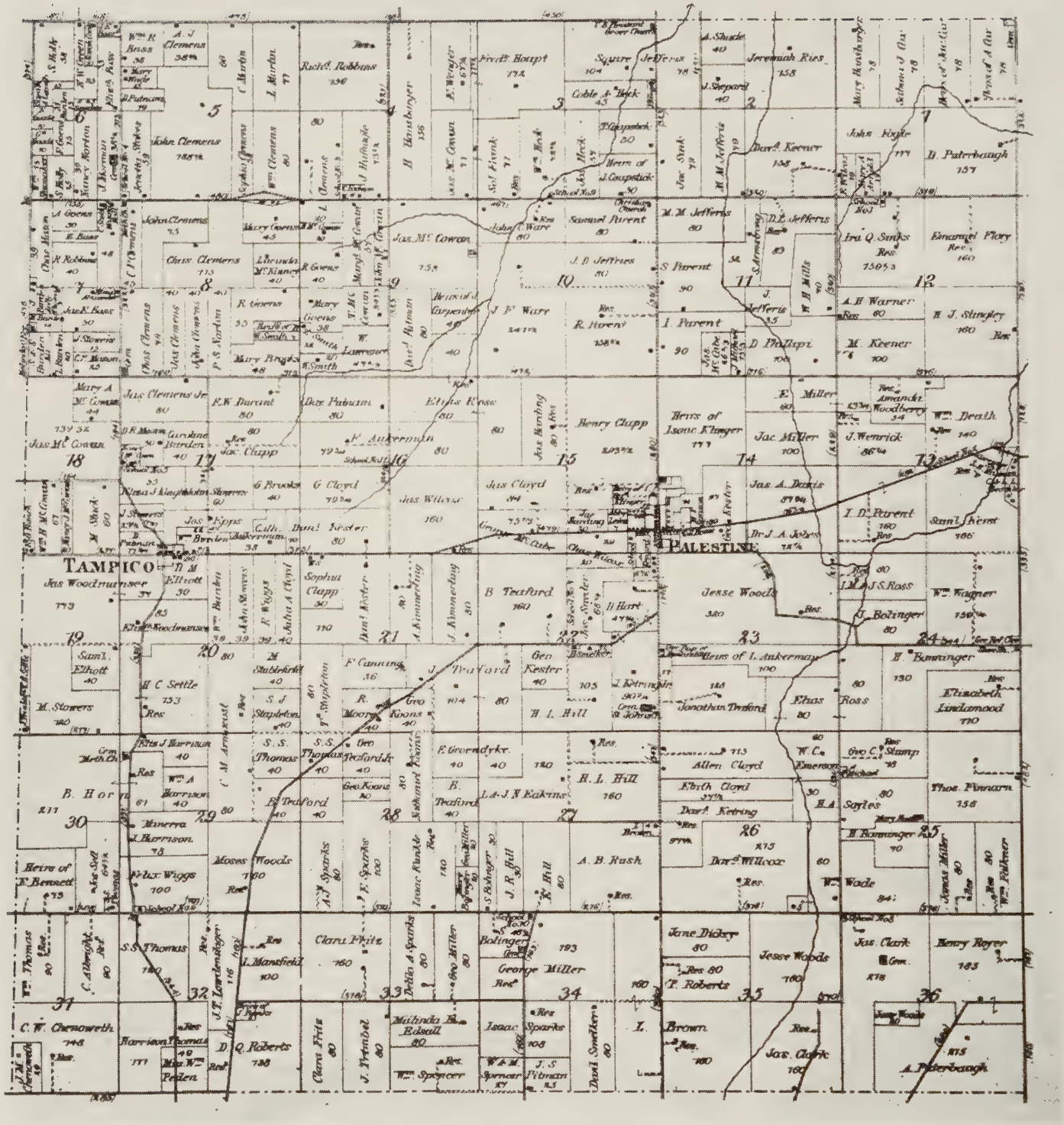
Township Trustee minutes for July 10, 1899 record the following:

"The following specifications were established for the Ross free pike: Road bed to be twenty feet wide with good side ditches on each side of road. District No. 3 to be widened in places to make the Road-bed 20 ft. wide, Grade north of Hartle's farm to be raised so as to make good side ditches and a small culvert at Hartle's 1, Culvert north of Wm. Wade's residence. Grade from south of No. 8 school house commencing south of first bridge and grade to the foot of first hill. One Culvert South of Clark's Station, balance of road from J. Leases's South line to Harrison township. Line all to be graded so as to have side ditches at the outside 15 inches deep and road bed 20 feet wide. To be graveled with the best of gravel two loads side and side so as to make a first class road."

September 18, 1907, the trustees reimbursed John Mikesell $11.00 for money paid making road to Clark Cemetery.

Town 11 **GERMAN** Range 1

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile


TAMPICO
PALESTINE
B. Hor
Heirs of F. Bennett
Minerva J. Harrison
Moses Woods
Jesse Woods
Jane Dickey
George Miller
Jas. Clark
Henry Royer
Jonathan Trueford
Elias Ross
Allen Cloyd
Jas. A. Davis
Jac. Miller
Henry Clapp
Jas. Clemens
John Clemens
Rachel Robbins
Jeremiah Ries
John Hyde
D. Peterbaugh
Jas. Woodmansee
Sam'l Elliott
H. C. Settle
M. Stowers
Jas. Wilcox
Jas. Floyd
Jas. Wilcox
Jas. Clayd
G. Brooks
G. Clayd
Jas. Mc Cowan
Jas. Clemens Jr.
E. W. Durant
Dan. Putnam
Elias Ross
Henry Clapp
Jac. Clapp
H. Ankerman
Jas. Hardesty
Jas. Clayd
Jas. Wilcox
Jas. Floyd
Sophia Clapp
Jas. Hardesty
B. Trafford
Jesse Woods
Geo. Kester
H. L. Hill
Jonathan Trueford
Elias Ross
Elizabeth Landamood
Jesse Woods
Jas. Clark
Henry Royer
T. Roberts
Jas. Clark
A. Peterbaugh
C. W. Chenowrth
Harrison Thomas
D. Q. Roberts
Mrs. Wm. Peden
Clara Fritz
J. Trimbal
Melinda B. Edsall
Wm. Spencer
Isaac Sparks
W. A. M. Spencer
J. S. Pitman
Dan'l Souther
L. Brown
Jas. Clark
A. Peterbaugh
Heirs of I. Ankerman
Jonathan Trueford
Elias Ross
Elizabeth Landamood
Thos. Pinnam
H. Bonninger
Wm. Wagner
G. Bolinger
Wm. Death
Jas. Clark
Henry Royer
Jas. Wade
Thos. Pinnam
H. A. Sayles
Geo. C. Stump
Emerson
Dan'l Willcox
Dan'l Ketring
Elizh Cloyd
Allen Cloyd
H. L. Hill
A. B. Rush
J. R. Hill
F. Hill
Isaac Sparks
Jane Dickey
Jesse Woods
T. Roberts

contemplated Turnpike, commencing at the half section line of section seventeen (17), where the New Madison and Township Line Free Turnpike Road intersects the Greenville and Palestine Turnpike, running thence six miles and 495 feet in a Southernly direction, on the line of said Free Turnpike to New Madison. The work to be done according to specifications and profile on file at said Auditor's Office. The work will be let in sections of one-half mile each. To be paid for in County Bonds as the work progresses, payable in one, two, and three years from September 1st, 1867, with interest payable semi-annually at the rate of seven per cent, per annum. The entire work to be finished by October 1st, 1868.

By order of the Commissioners of D.C.O.

Ed. Lockett, Engineer."

(July 10, 1867, tt. newspaper notice)

House Road - This road was named for Earl House, the father of Thurman House. Earl moved from Sharpeye to this road about 1915. The road was mud at this time, so he petitioned to have the road graded and graveled about 1915. He used to have a Model "T" that would get stuck in the loose gravel. He would then get his bay horse Charlie to pull out the car. In the winter time, Earl put his Model "T" up on blocks. The road work was done by Studabaker.

Mikesell Road - John Mikesell Jr. s/o John and Anna (Reid) Mikesell was living at the intersection of this road and Hollansburg-Tampico Road in 1875. Interestingly, this road used to extend from this intersection to the Hollansburg-Palestine Road as recently as 1888. This road may have ceased in conjunction with the importance of Glen Karn and the railroad, and the building of the Chenoweth Road.

Chenoweth Road - Named after W.A. Chenoweth who ran the general store in Glen Karn for fifty years. More recent road and not found on many county maps.

Koons Road - This German family name also earlier spelled Koontz or Kuntz. George Koons of Gratis township, in Preble County had two sons - Nathaniel born 1824 in Maryland and George born 1834, who moved to the area on Koons Road between 1857 and 1875.

Hollansburg-Tampico Road - Earl Cloyd who lived near here said they referred to this road as simply the road to Tampico in the early 1900's. There are many references in the township clerk's records of Bass Road, so the road north of Tampico was probably known as Bass Road. Probably after Zebedee Bass who owned land in the NE¼ of section 7 and the NW¼ of section 8.

Page 78 of the township treasurer's records, Zebedee Bass was paid $45.00 for digging a ditch on or near Bass Road, July 15, 1883. Raymond Wade also remembers Bass Road referred to as such when he worked for the township roads in the early 1920's. Some referred to the road north of Stingley Road as Stringtown Road.

Hillgrove-Southern Road - In June of 1891, Solomon Aukerman presented a bill for gravel hauled on the Aukerman Road - $2.20. Solomon and Fred Aukerman living in section 16 off this road. (page 199) On page 219, April 9, 1892, "The clerk was ordered to advertise for sealed bids for the construction of a Bridge to be built on the Aukerman Road where the E. Clemens Ditch crosses the same also to draw plans and specifications for same."

Another early name for the road was the King's Highway.

Smith Road - Maze Clemens recalls that this road commonly called Smoky Road because at one time everyone on the road smoked old corn cob pipes - even the women.

The road had its beginnings sometime after 1875. W.M. Smith lives in locality in 1857. W.Z. Smith in 1875, W. Smith and J.B. and W.F. Smith in 1888.

William Jones also has heard that Smoky Row may have gotten its name from the many smokers on the road. Another origin of the name may have come from the row of houses on the road that had smoke coming from their chimneys in the wintertime and smoke pots in the yards to keep away bugs in the summer time.

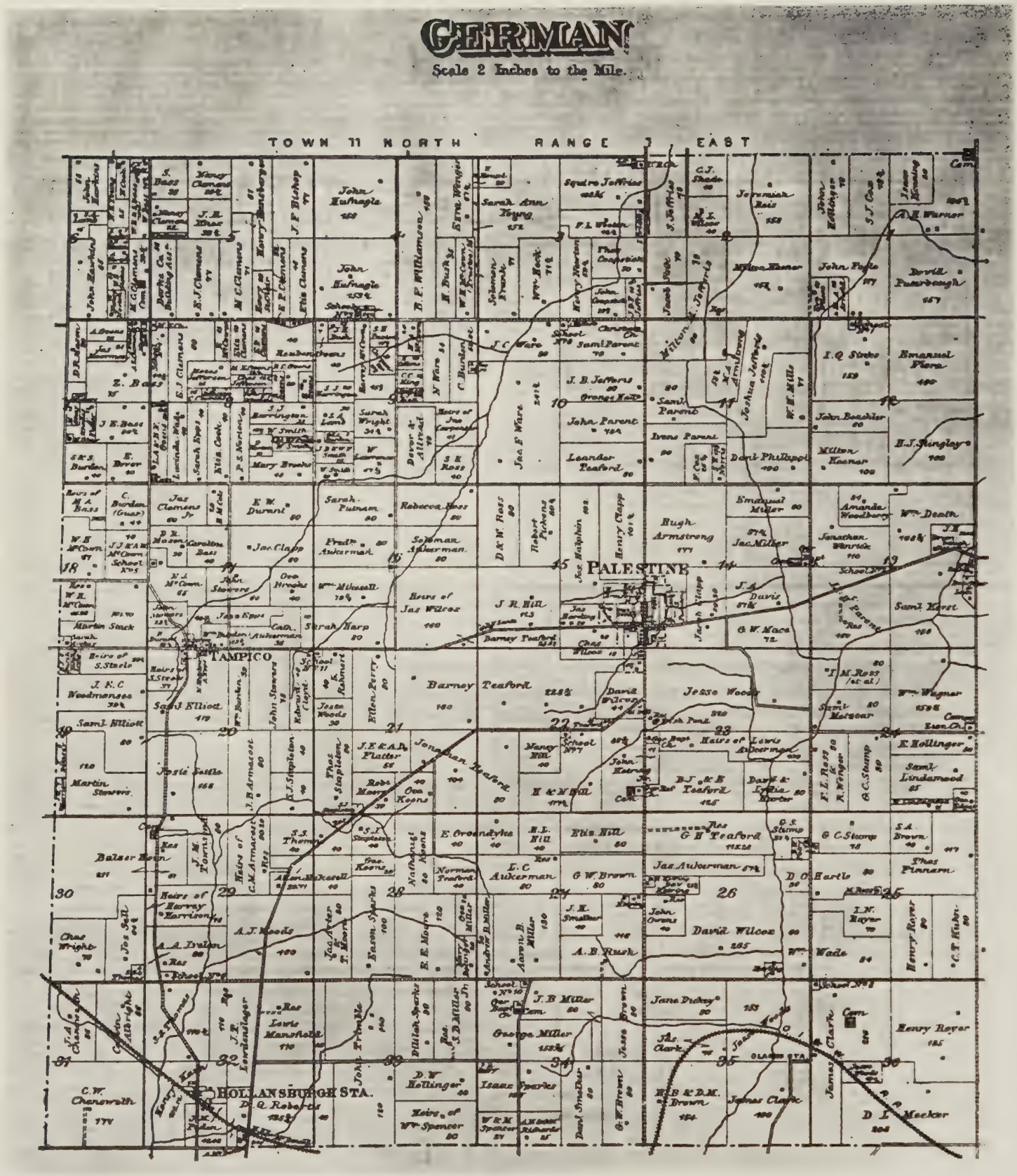
Byrket Road - It is not known after whom Byrket Road was named, but a Lawrence Burket, s/o J. and M. Burket, is buried at Mt. Zion Cemetery, having died 1870 at age 22. Joseph Burket died 1851 in his 57th year, and he and his wife Susannah are buried at West Branch Cemetery.

Crumrine Road - Peter Crumrine moved into German township March 12, 1817. He was the third settler in German township according to some history accounts. By the 1820 census, he was listed in Washington township. His brother Michael Crumrine purchased the northwest quarter of section 18 in Neave township August 12, 1821. ("Descendants of Michael and Peter Crumrine", 1971. Mr. Gale D. Crumrine, Troy, Ohio.) A Jacob Crumrine also lived in the area across from the Zion Church in 1888. J. Crumrine had a steam saw mill in the northwest quarter of section 20 Neave township. Crumrine Road was named for J.C. Crumrine according to his great-granddaughter, Madonna Teaford.

Hollansburg-Arcanum Road - Lester Hollinger recalls working hauling water when this road was widened, and the hills lowered through a WPA project.

Clapp Road - This road named after the Clapp family who have lived on a farm on the road since 1825. Marion F. and Martha E. (Commons) Clapp bought the farm from Frank S. and Lessie (Wilcox) Clapp who received the farm from Frank's parents Jacob and Louisiana Clapp. Jacob came by the farm from his parents Ludwick and Elizabeth Clapp who bought the farm in 1825.

Stingley Road - This road is probably named after the George Stingley who settled the SE quarter of section 12 in the fall of 1817. The 1857 plat shows he still owns land in section 12. Interestingly, a road went through parts of Stingley's land from Nashville to the West Branch near Baker. This road is no longer in existance, except for some traces through the Deeter's woods. Thurman House says his Grandmother Stoner used to travel the old Nashville-Baker Road to cross the West Branch. Stingley Road was known as the Jefferis Road through the early 1900's. Maggie McCown also recalls it referred to as Longtown Road.

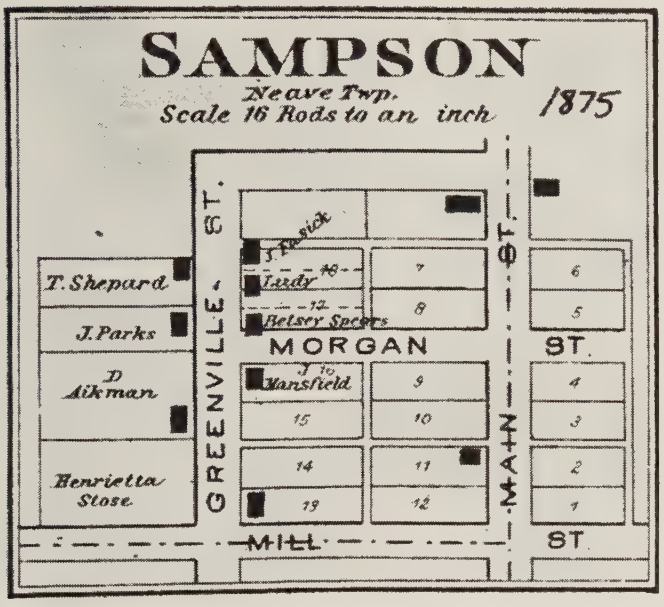


1888 German Township

Ross Road - Elias Ross owned land off this road in sections 9, 15, 16 in 1857. Henry Ross also owns land in section 24, SW¼. Henry Ross was among the early immigrants arriving in the fall of 1817.

Hollansburg-Sampson Road - This road went to Sampson, a small village laid out in 1846. A church was there in 1880. Sampson was laid out in the SE corner of Neave Township and in a few years several buildings and businesses were located there. The building of the D. & U. railroad and the location of Delisle caused the decline and final absorption of the village.

The road was earlier referred to as the Township Line Road, as indicated in these records from the clerk's township records of June 18, 1887, page 128: "This day the Township Trustees of said Twp. Ordered the Township Clerk to notify the General Road Master of the I.B. & W. Railroad that there is an obstruction on the Township Line Road between German and Harrison Townships about one mile East of Clarks Station on said railroad caused by the caving of the Bank on their right of way and to remove the same at once."



Godfrey Road - This road is an example of a road without a name until the signs were put up. F.P. Godfrey lived on this road in 1857 on the NE¼ section 33. The road at this time extended to Hollansburg-Tampico Road.

Idris Lantz relates this road used to be called Mikesell road because so many Mikesells lived on it, before the roads were named.

Quaker Trace - "One of the first, and perhaps the first regular trail through the county, was what is known as 'The Quaker Trace'. This was a direct route from Richmond to Fort Wayne, and being the first established trail through the county, gained a reputation that made it the county's first thoroughfare. Of this trace, Squire Bowen says:

" 'The 'Quaker Trace' was begun in 1817. James Clark and twenty-five or thirty others took three wagons with provisions and a surveyor with his compass and chain and measured distances and blazed trees and marked mile trees, cutting out the road wide enough for a wagon to pass. They wound around ponds and big logs and trees, and quagmires, forded the Mississinewa and the Wabash, and so on to Fort Wayne. James Bowen went as one of the company twenty-five miles to beyond the Mississinewa crossing, till one wagon load had been used up. That team returned, and James came back with them. The route passed through Arba, Spartanburg, Bartonia, South Salem (west of) Union City, through Mount Holly, through Allensville, crossing the Mississinewa just north of that place, through North Salem, and crossing the Wabash at Jay City, Jay county, near Corydon. There was but one house between (what is now) Dan Comer's one mile north of Spartanburg and Fort Wayne, viz., at Thompson's Prairie eight miles north of the Wabash.'

"This is said to be the only thoroughfare of any consequence whatever in the county up until May, 1819. Of course, many paths led from one settler's home to another, but these were simply private paths and no more." (pg. 364, 1914 *History of Randolph County*)

Trains and Trollies

T.B. & W. - Fraser Wilson article in the 4/15/1950 "Greenville Advocate" informs us that the busiest railway construction took place from 1850 to 1885 when the lines on the Dayton and Union (B. & O.); the Big Four, Versailles to Union; the Northern Division (Chicago) of the Pennsylvania - from Bradford to Union City; the South Division (Panhandle, from Bradford to Braffetsville; and the Cincinnati Northern (N.Y. Central) from Castine to Burketsville were built.

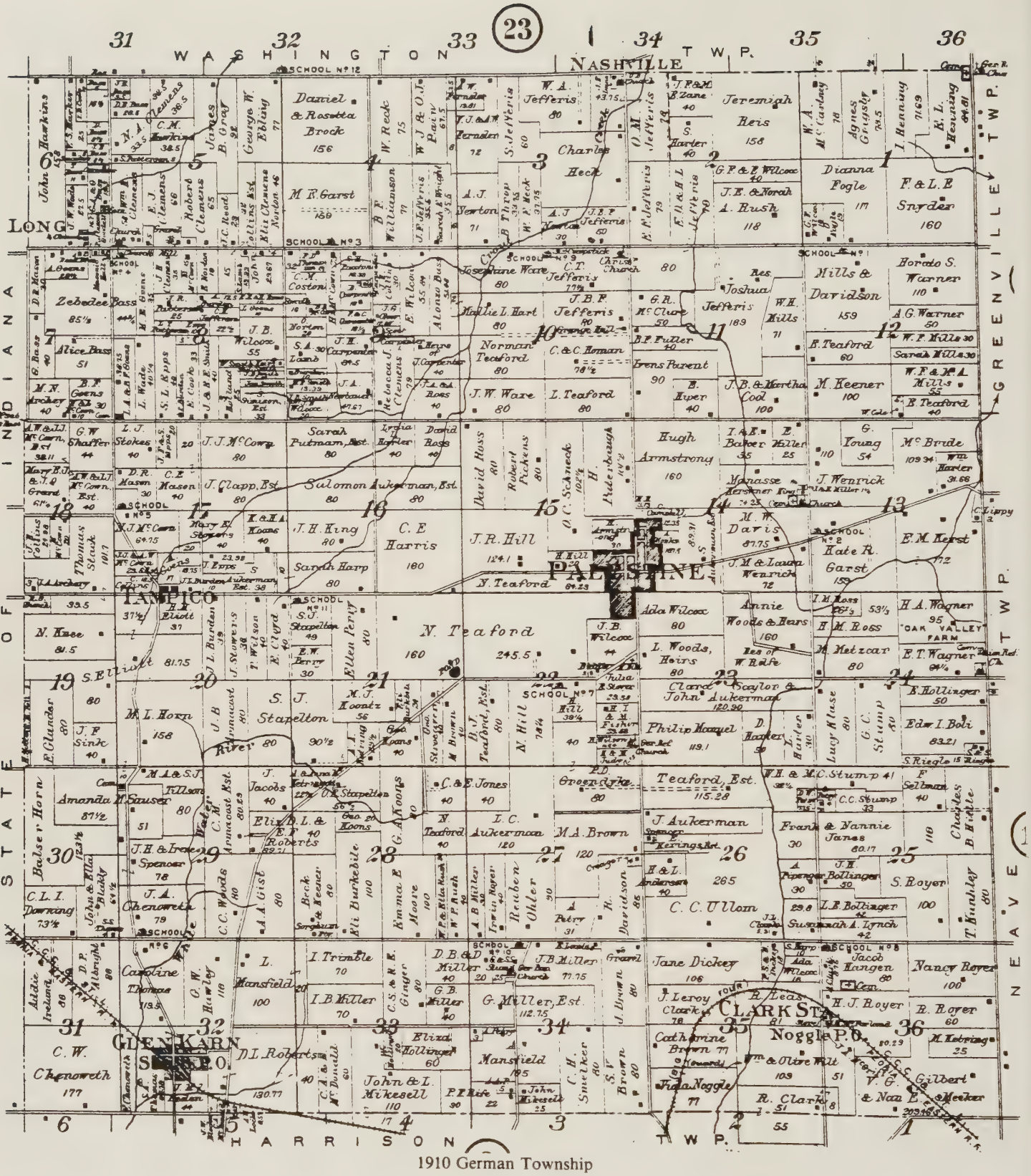
"The Peoria & Eastern Railway division of the Big Four, formerly known as the I.B. & W. Railway extends through the southern part of the county in an east and west direction. It crosses the eastern county line in the northern part of Monroe Twp. and runs directly west through Monroe and Twin at the Greenville and New Madison pike in northwestern Butler Twp. then zigzags about in a northwesterly direction through northern Harrison and southern German twps. reaching the state line near the SW corner of the latter twp. The stations along this line are Pitsburg, Arcanum, Savona, Clark's Station, and Glen Karn. It was built 1881, and affords an outlet to the southern part of the county similar to that provided by the other division of the 'Big Four' in the northern part." (1914 *History of Darke County*, page 404)

The first train passed through April 21, 1882.

The tale told on Jim Byrkett was that when he got cold in the winter time he would grease the railroad tracks by his place in the southern part of the township. The tracks were on an incline into Glen Karn, and when the train was not able to pull its load up the tracks, half the cars would be unhitched. The train would make two trips to pull its load into Glen Karn. While the train was pulling the front cars into Glen Karn station, Burkett would unload what coal he needed from the abandoned cars to see him through the winter.

The following article by Harvey C. Garber in a 1933 "Greenville Advocate" provides a glimpse of the railroad, and some of Mr. Garber's ideas on what would improve the line.

"What then could be done by Greenville with the largest urban population of an extra large county to secure direct East and West transportation, both passenger and freight? One and only one plan is open and this would be to rectify



1910 German Township

the unexplainable blunder made by the promoters and builders of the old Indianapolis, Bloomington and Western Railroad constructed about 1881-1882 from Springfield through Troy, Arcanum, Ohio, and Lynn, New Castle, Indiana, to Indianapolis and now a part of the Big Four Railroad and rebuild from Troy through Greenville striking the Pennsylvania present line six miles east of Greenville or about two miles west of Gettysburg and using the aban-

Big Four Dept.
at Glen Karn looking east
(from 1908 post card).

doned Pennsylvania rails and right-of-way in and through Greenville to a point about two miles southwest where a new line would be built near or through Palestine, joining the present Big Four-Indianapolis Division west of Crete to southern Randolph County, Indiana. This would strengthen and shorten this Big Four Division about five miles and it would then have fewer curves and grades than any other equal length of track on this line from Springfield to Peoria, Illinois.

"In the past, the present line from Troy to Crete has had its problems in maintenance, one of which was a soft spot or sinking of the track between Savona and Glen Karn in Darke County, not to speak of innumerable curves between Troy and Pittsburg, and between Savona and Crete, Indiana.

"The location of the present line through this part of Darke County as well as through Western Miami County has never been justified for it passes through no County Seat or important towns after it leaves Troy, Ohio, until it reaches New Castle, Indiana. True, it passes Arcanum, but Arcanum was already served by the Dayton and Union and neither Arcanum or any other village between Lynn, Ind., and Troy ever gave the line one-tenth enough traffic to justify its present location.

"It is well understood that this line is primarily a freight line and that is all the more reason..."

Harvey's wishes for the line did not come about as we now know. Wooden trestles were used until 1923.

At one time during World War II, there were five trains in Glen Karn. The Doodle Bug between Indianapolis and Springfield ran daily. Dean LaVec was the stationmaster when the Glen Karn station was torn down.

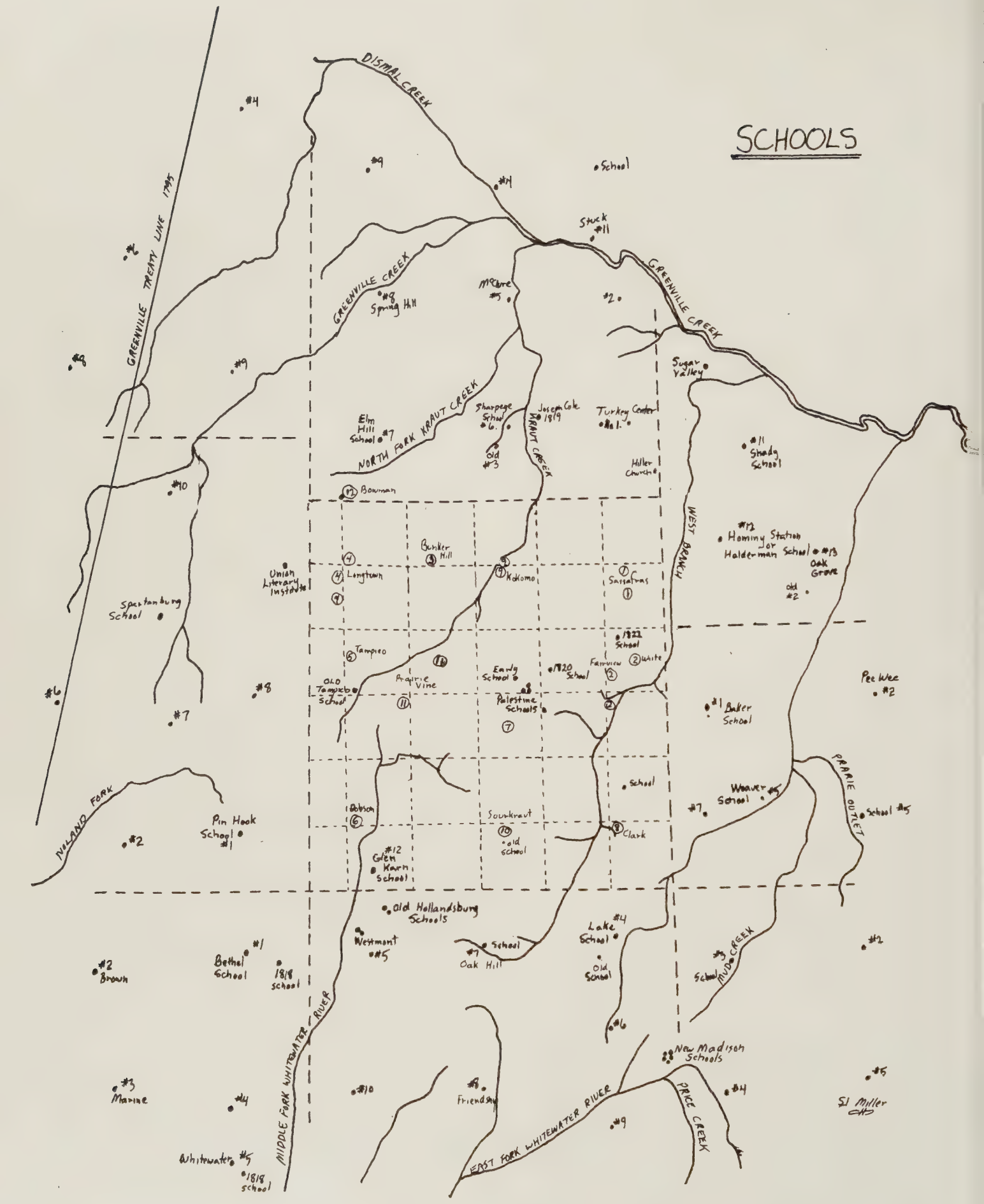
The trains ran up until a fire damaged a railroad bridge around 1972 to 1974. Continental Grain bought the track from its location east to Arcanum.

Trolley - In a most curious entry in the Palestine town council minute book, the town council enters Ordinance 63 pertaining to a trolley to pass through Palestine. The Dec. 30, 1901 entry records that the Richmond and Greenville Traction Co. wanted a right of way to construct, maintain, and operate a railroad on Main Street from the north line of corporation to the south line. The company made application to the council of Palestine; notice was given in both the "Greenville Democrat" and "Greenville Journal" for more than three consective weeks; written consent of a majority of owners on Main Street; and a certificate by County Engineer filed.

The traction company was agreeable to the terms set by the town council which included a passenger rate of 20¢ between Greenville and Palestine; 25 year lease; and to be completed by July 1, 1904 or contract void.

Hacks - "A new hack line has been established between Hollansburg and Greenville by enterprising business men of Greenville. The hack line runs from Glen Karn, Hollansburg, Palestine and Baker's store, and makes two trips a week. No charge is made for carrying passengers and the only stipulation is that the passengers do a portion, if not all, their trading with the merchants who provide the hack. The trip today resulted in the bringing of 12 people to town and the prospects for the increase of business are very encouraging." *(early Greenville newspaper)*

Ethel (Lovin) Fisher who lived in Hollansburg from 1902 to 1906 writes, "There were no dry goods stores in H-burg, so 3 days a week the 'Hack' went to Richmond and 3 days to Greenville. It was a covered buggy or wagon with a long seat on each side, the full length and held maybe 10 or 12 people. There were no windows except in the door at the back and we could see out past the driver, Frank (?) Crumrine. You could go to the 2 towns free and if you bought something at one of several stores you could go home free. Knollenberg's was one. If you bought nothing you paid $1.00 for the return trip."


SCHOOLS
DISMAL CREEK
GREENVILLE TREATY LINE 1795
GREENVILLE CREEK
NORTH FORK KRAUT CREEK
KRAUT CREEK
WEST BRANCH
PRAIRIE OUTLET
MUDDY CREEK
PRICE CREEK
MIDDLE FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
EAST FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
NILAND FORK
Spring Hill
Elm Hill School #7
Sharpsage School #6
Joseph Cole 1819
Turkey Center #1
Sugar Valley
Shady School #11
Hiller Church
Old #3
Bowman
Bunker Hill
Union Literary Institute
Longtown
Kokomo
Sassafras
Hominy Station or Halderman School #12
Oak Grove #13
old #2
Spartanburg School
Tampico
1922 School
Fairview
White
Prairie Vine
OLD Tampico School
Early School
1920 School
Palestine Schools
Pee Wee #2
Baker School #1
Weaver School #5
Robson
Pin Hook School #1
Sourkraut
old school
Clark
Glen Kern School #12
Old Hollandsburg Schools
Westmont #5
Oak Hill #7
Lake School #4
Old School
Bethel School #1
1818 school
Brown #2
Marine #3
Whitewater #5
1818 school
Friendship
New Madison Schools
SI Miller

Chapter VI
History of Schools

Liberty township and its people have seen important changes in the school system. From the earliest log subscription schools of the pioneers', to the one-room schoolhouse of the district schools, and finally the consolidations of the smaller districts into larger centralized school districts.

No history of the area surrounding Palestine would be complete without a look at these schools that were so important in the early educations of its people. No one today can remember the subscription schools, and too few recall the once prominent and, often, still standing one-room schools throughout the community. It is important to record some of the history of our schools and retain the knowledge of these schools in our heritage.

This chapter, then, offers an interesting look at the history of schools familiar to the people of Liberty and neighboring townships.

The Subscription Schools (1820-1839)

What were these earliest schools like? According to Jacob T. Martz in his article "Early Education in Darke County", "At this time there was no public school fund. The schools were supported by individual contributions from parents who sent their children to school. The teacher received a salary of ten dollars per month, and boarded himself, while the school would continue in session about three months in the year, and this amount of $30.00 was apportioned among the heads of families in proportion to the number of children sent, the teacher holding each parent individually responsible for the amount of his tuition."

The 1880 *History of Darke County,* page 285, informs us, "Educational advantages in town and county were for many years quite limited. There were a few rude schoolhouses widely scattered, and these were occupied three months of each winter by teachers whose qualifications better adapted them for burning brick than solving problems in mathematics, and, consequently, there was little learned. Schools were taught by subscriptions. Settlers built houses as they were needed. Taxes came as a result of the practical defeat of a law which appropriated public lands for school funds. Many of these sections were at the time worthless, and, such as were of value being sold, the proceeds were squandered."

The deed books in the Recorder's office give information on the sale of the school lands in German township: "Governor of Ohio to John Aukerman of Ohio $187.50 paid to Treasurer of Darke Co., Ohio being land appropriated by act of Congress for use of schools and sold by act passed 1-29-1827 for sale of land in School Section 16; 80 a S½ NE¼ S16 T11 R1; Robert Lucas Governor Recorded 4-16-1834." (Deed Book D-1-500)

"Governor of Ohio to John Aukerman $120.50 paid to Treasurer of Darke County, Ohio being land appropriated by act of Congress for use of schools and sold by act passed 1-29-1827 for sale of land in School Section 16; 80 a S½ NW¼ S16 T11 R1; Robert Lucas Governor recorded 4-16-1834." (Deed Book D-1-500) These lands were sold December 11, 1833.

The information from the 1880 *History of Darke County,* page 285 continues, "The work was in private hands, there was no test of ability or qualification, and not till 1821 was the first general school law found in the statutes. There were no school districts, nor public funds, special or tuition. Every one paid for the instruction of his own children."

"Professor McIntosh, writing in 1880, gives a vivid description of early educational conditions in the settlement about Prophetstown as follows: 'Many settlers had large families - as many as ten children were found in a single cabin - and, to provide for the future of these young people, the parents came to this county. There was always work to be done, and the services of all hands were needed; it was only during the winter months that schools could be attended. At these, only the elementary branches were taught, and the predominant idea of the school master was discipline first, learning afterward. No grammar nor geography were taught. Few studied arithmetic, and these did not proceed much beyond the rudiments; and when, at length, grammar was introduced, such pupils were thought well advanced. In any locality, whenever sufficient families had moved in to form a school, the settlers stood ready to build a house and engage a teacher. Tall, strapping youths attended school, and the master had need of decision and courage as well as method and erudition. It was customary for the person applying for the school to call upon the par-

ties within sending distance and canvass for scholars. If enough were secured, school opened."

"An illustration of the old-time method is given as follows: 'About the year 1815, a man came into the Rush neighborhood, and offered his services as teacher. The settlers located along Mud Creek, West Branch and Bridge Creek talked the matter over, and concluded to employ him. It was a light labor for all to turn out with axes, handspikes and oxen, upon the day appointed, to chop and draw the logs to a chosen site for the purpose of putting up a schoolhouse. The location was near Rush Fort, on Mud Creek. While some put up round logs, notched down, one layer upon another, until they were of sufficient elevation to form a story, split clap-boards for the roof, chamber floor and door, and puncheons for the floor, others drew stone for the fireplace and prepared sticks and mud for the chimney. The floor being laid, next came desks and seats. Large holes were bored in a log on each side of the room, wooden pins were driven in, and a slab of unplaned plank laid on these pins. For seats, holes were bored in puncheons and legs driven in, two at each end. Windows were made by cutting out a log nearly the whole length of the house, leaving a hole a foot wide. Into this was filled a sort of lattice work of sticks, and upon this greased paper was pasted to transmit the light. Such was the school house of sixty-five years ago. It was not much of a structure, but there was no great contrast between it and the homes of its builders. There was no lack of ventilation, and the wood was not too long for the fireplace. School opened in charge of W.H. Jones, his services having been secured at a salary of $7 per month. He was severe and exacting; punishments were the order of the day. Whispering and other indiscretions subjected the offender to blows with a rule upon the palm of the hand; and so freely did Mr. Jones administer chastisement, that the patrons were obliged to request him to moderate his punishment, as the hands of their boys were so sore from repeated feruling that they were unable to use the ax. It was a species of torture to strike the tips of the gathered fingers with the ferule, and this was disapproved by the settlers, indurated to rough usages as they were. Only two branches of education were taught - reading and writing. The example of this neighborhood was contagious, and soon a house was built." (pp. 187, 188 - 1914 History, Wilson)

"In many of the schools, pupils were required to study in a loud tone, and hence called a loud school, the object being to let the teacher know they were engaged upon their lessons, and not in mischief. Classes in arithmetic and writing were never formed, but each pupil 'cipered away at will', and received personal assistance from the teacher when the same was needed. Writing was taught by the teacher 'setting the copy', and the pupil trying to imitate the same. The 'quill pen' was used by the pupil, and the 'master' was expected to make the pen, and mend the same when the pupil thought it unfit for use. The custom of 'barring out' the teacher and compelling him to 'treat', about the holidays, was indulged in by the pupils as a general custom, and sanctioned by the parents; but this relic of barbarism has almost entirely disappeared from our schools." (pp. 188, 189 - 1914 History, Wilson)

As little to no written record exist to provide a look at German township's early school beginnings, we look to records of early schools in the neighboring townships of Washington and Greenville and Neave to give an image of the education beginnings in German township. No doubt, they were similar in many ways, as German township was set off from Washington.

Page 440 of the 1880 *History of Darke County* offers this glimpse at Washington township's school beginnings: "As to the schools, they were generally taught in old deserted cabins until the settlers saw fit to select some convenient site and unite on some day to build a cabin; afterward a teacher was hired by the process of joint subscription.

"There is as yet no school law, no defined districts, and there is something yet lacking. It is the year 1822, and the house stands surrounded by a pathless forest and the woodmen's children cannot find their way securely. Parents and older boys select the best and nearest paths, which they blaze and cut away brush from. They cut small trees across slashes and branches. They put up hand poles to steady the children in crossing, and then, with Webster's Speller, English Reader, Pike's Arithmetic, slate and pencil, one-half quire blue paper, one-half dozen goose quills and a bottle of home-made ink, the most advanced was thoroughly equipped, and, not unfrequently, several of the same family were used to study the same meager set of books.

"In this rude state, the children sat for hours on a bench, together with feet swinging between bench and floor from morning till noon, and not allowed to whisper or scarcely look off their books without being liable to punishment.

"As to the teachers, they were usually limited in qualifications, being generally competent to instruct in orthography, reading, writing, and arithmetic; sometimes knowledge of the latter was very limited. All were skilled in the use of the rod, which was plied unmercifully on the slightest neglect or provocation. There were only three months' school each year, and these were in the winter, and unexceptionally taught by school masters."

First Pioneer School - "As early as 1820, a schoolhouse was erected on the southwest quarter of Section 14, on land now owned by George Kester. The structure was by no means imposing or attractive. It was of logs and nailless, without glass or sawed lumber. The first teacher was William R. Jones, whose reputation comes down to us, as of 'an excellent man and teacher'." (1880 *History of Darke County*)

The 1875 *Atlas of Darke County* offers, "The first school-house was built 1820, near Palestine, on land now owned by heirs of Isaac Klinger." Daniel Wagoner helped build this school house.

Other clues to its location come from the 1880 *History of Darke County,* which tells that the first meetings, beginning 1836, of the Palestine Christian church were held in an old schoolhouse"; and the 1914 *History of Darke County,* states the Palestine Christian services were "preached in an old school house in Palestine where a church was built in 1859." This may indicate that the site of the first pioneer school was near where the present Universalist Church is. Certainly from matching the 1875 properties of heirs of Isaac Klinger and 1880 properties of George Kester, the site of the school is near the cemetery, either to the immediate north or south, or the east of the church, if not, indeed, on the present church or cemetery grounds itself.

From Jesse Woods' biography, page 599 of the 1880 *History of Darke County,* this glimpse is given to the pioneer school: Jesse Woods came with his parents to this

township (German) in 1821 at age two. "His early education, so far as book knowledge is concerned, was necessarily limited, as opportunities in this direction were meager, and his time and labor principally demanded on the farm; vivid to his recollection is the appearance of the first schoolhouse which he attended; it was a 'fac-simile' of the pioneer schoolhouse - the progeny of necessity, not the sound of a nail was heard in its construction, nor a glass window seen in it after its completion; his first teacher was William R. Jones, the first pedagogue in the township; he kept the characteristic 'land school' of the backwoods, and his plans of punishing unruly scholars would appear as odd to-day as his methods of teaching."

Second Pioneer School - "The second schoolhouse was built in 1822, on the northwest quarter of Section 13, on land now owned by J. Wenrick. This dates the beginning of school interests in German Township, which have held even place with those of other townships from origin." (1880 *History of Darke County*) The school house is located in the northwest corner of section 13 as is indicated by both the 1857 plat and the 1875 Atlas. The 1875 Atlas indicates that the second school house was built in 1822, on land now owned by Emanuel Miller. The 1857 plat locates it by 'HS'.

Page 575 of the 1880 History tells of Squire Jefferis, born 1828 in German Township; he lived with his parents until he attained to his majority, assisting in the duties of the farm, which then consisted largely in removing the forests from the land, preparatory to farming; his winter months were devoted to the acquistition of knowledge in the common schools, which were then after the pioneer style; he attended his first school in the second schoolhouse erected in the township, which stood on Sec. 13; his first instructor was Milton Moore; by close attention to his books, he qualified himself for the profession of teaching, and taught his first school in 1850, in what was known as the 'James Daily District', in German Township; the building in which he taught was only 16 x 18 feet, and his average daily attendance forty; he was recompensed for his arduous labor at the rate of $15 per month, boarding himself; he followed teaching during the winter months for a period of ten years, and for five summers during this time engaged in the manufacture of brick, the balance of the summers were spent in farming."

Other Pioneer Schools

Without doubt, there existed in German Township other pioneer subscription schools besides these first two. It is fortunate that evidence of the 1820 and 1822 pioneer schools has been recorded, but between these first two and the first district schools to have been built in 1839, there were probably other pioneer schools in the township which have been lost to history. As these early pioneer schools existed in deserted cabins and on properties belonging to area farmers, no early deed records reveal the location of such schools. And as the first plat map was made in 1857 after the district schools had been organized, we can not look at early maps. There are hints of these other pioneer schools, however, and those are given here.

Waggoner School - E.T. Wagner mentions an old pioneer school in his Wagner history notes: "On this wagon trail farther south of the Wagner homestead, section 24, a log school house had been built and this is where they went to school. It might be possible that Grandfather (William) went to that school in an earlier day. How interesting it would be to have a picture of that school house. We can't even tell you what it looked like, but here 'Readin', 'Writin', and 'Arithmetic' were taught and likely the hickory stick was not neglected."

"In her 1905 interview with her granddaughter, Lola Aukerman, Anna Stephens Woods (then 83 years old) gives an excellent description of a pioneer school which she attended, starting about 1830, near the Waggoner settlement, in Western Darke Co., Ohio." ("Notes to Our Grandchildren" 1972, by K.B. & Vivian Woods, Part III)

"David Stephens and Lydia Wagner were married Feb. 14, 1821 - first lived with Wagners in first home cabin on old Wagner place - They had a family of 13 children; 10 sons and 3 daughters. Then they moved to the old Groendyke place - built a cabin in the Spring. Had doors and windows sawed out - but didn't get them in till late fall - so they hung quilts over doors and windows. There were some bears and the wolves would howl around. They must have lived there 5 or 6 years. Father David and Mother Lydia often walked to the Wagner settlement. Father leading bro. John and Mother leading bro. Noah and I (Anna Woods) would walk all the way. I was active on my feet for a child. My Mother Lydia was afraid of the Indians and wolves etc. So they traded the Groendyke farm for what is the old Stump farm now. I was six years old before I was taught English. I was about 8 years old (born 1822) when I went to school. My teachers name was Henry Judy. My father took me and blazed the trees and took a compass. The noted spring is still there. The school building was of logs. Puncheon floors 16 ft. by 15 perhaps or maybe larger. At the north was a big fire place. The chimney on outside was made of sticks and mud. The benches were puncheons with legs. Lessons - Testament spelling and reading. I was anxious to learn to read and the lights being scarce in those early pioneer days I would go and get a hickory barke and put in fire place for light, get on the hearth and read. My Mother Lydia would say, 'Look at Bennie Eakins with his book.' Bennie Eakins married my father David Stephen's sister Elisabeth. Benny Eakins was Squire. David Stephens, my father, taught music in the early days and was a fine scribe and a beautiful singer for those early days. But there was no music in my mother Lydia Wagner tho she liked music." (Lola Aukerman's Diary)

" 'If the schoolmaster were ill my father substituted, for he wrote a beautiful hand and was a natural teacher of music. From Mother I learned to spin and weave, for she was skilled in those arts. I can still make a spinning wheel sing.'

"She bore thirteen children, raised seven to maturity. I remember her going about her housework at a trot, and whistling, though she was often told that 'a whistling girl and a crowing hen always come to some bad end.' She couldn't care less for such saws. There was a lot of spice and ginger in Anna." (Notes of memories of Anna Stephens Woods supplied by Mary Flo Dickey.)

The 1857 plat locates on section 25 where David Stephens, the father of John and Anna, lived. John Stephens was born in German township 1825, and his biography on page 315 of the 1900 *Biographies of Darke County, Ohio,* shares this information. "John Stephens was reared in his native

township when most of that region was still wild and unimproved, and his early recollections are of seeing deer, wolves and other wild animals of the forest. He attended subscription schools conducted in a log school-house with a puncheon floor, and at the age of nineteen commenced serving an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade at Palestine, Ohio, faithfully putting in three years at the forge."

Dobson School - This area too probably had a pioneer school. Page 488 of the 1900 *Biographies of Darke County, Ohio,* gives this information in Samuel S. Thomas' (born 1828) biography. "His education privileges were necessarily limited, and he attended school only about two months during the year. The school-house of that early day were built of logs with greased-paper windows, and slab seats with pins driven into them for legs, and the desks were made by laying a plank upon pins driven into the wall. When not writing the pupils generally sat with their backs to these desks."

Clemens School - Thomas F. Chenoweth, born 1808, "attended school with about an equal number of white and colored children, as the Clemens (colored) settlement was made soon after they moved here." (pp. 752, 753 - 1880 *History of Darke County*). James Clemens settled here 1822. Thomas Chenoweth arrived at section 32, Washington township with his family in February, 1818.

The District School (1839-1919)

The Law

"When, nearly a century ago, the Confederate Congress passed an act for the survey of Western lands, one section of each township was reserved 'for the maintenance of public schools within said township.' In the act for governing the Northwest Territory, passed July 13, 1787, it was provided: 'Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.' Later, one-thirty-sixth of the entire land of the State was given to the State in trust for the support of schools. The State constitution of 1802 provided: 'Religion, morality and knowledge being essentially necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged by legislative provision, not inconsistent with the rights of conscience.' " (1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 342)

From "Early Eductaion in Darke County" by Jacob T. Martz: "In 1821 a law was passed by our legislature which left it to a vote of each township whether school districts should be formed, and, perhaps, four years later, action in this respect was changed, and township trustees were required to divide the township into school districts, and a tax was levied by the County Commissioners for school purposes, which provided a fund of about ten dollars yearly for each school district. The amount would continue the school in session for about one month, and remaining two months services of the teacher was paid by individual contributions as before stated."

"Despite liberal provisions favorable to education, little had been done up to 1838 toward perfecting a system of common schools, the result of the scanty means and constant toil incident to pioneer life." (1880 *History of Darke County,* pg. 286)

"In 1838, the first efficient law was adopted by the General Assembly. It provided that School Directors 'may determine the studies to be pursued in each school, so that reading, writing and arithmetic may be taught in the English language.' " (1880 History of Darke County, pg. 342)

"During this time the teacher should be found qualified to teach penmanship, reading, writing, and arithmetic, a board of County Examiners for teachers Certificates being required under law, and in the year 1849, the law added geography and English grammar to the required qualifications of the teacher." (Jacob T. Martz, "Early Education in Darke County")

The Districts

The first known mention of the school districts is found in the old German Township Clerk's book, which listed the following ten districts in 1839: This old record book also lists the following school directors and teachers for the school districts in 1839 and 1840.

District #1, directors Darlington Jeffries and Jacob Crumrine, teacher Michael Spayd - March 2, 1839. Directors Henry Cox, George Crumrine, George Bund, teacher Harvey Williamson - 1841.

District #2, directors Elias Brumgem, A.M. Harter, James Cloyd, teacher Benjamin A. Hemp, this school commenced on 23rd March 1840 and ended the 25th June. Directors Elias Bromegem, John Crum, Abram Wever, teacher H. Wood - 1841.

District #3, the treasurer had received $17.77 for this school district but no payment recorded.

District #5, directors Joseph H. Randolph, Samuel H. Woodmansee, Asa Woodmansee, teacher Asa Woodmansee - March 4, 1840.

District #6, directors Charles W. Thomas, Daniel Thompson, teacher Joseph F. Randolph April 3, 1840. Directors Charles W. Thomas, Daniel Thompson, teacher Joseph F. Randolph - Feb. 29, 1840, one quarter.

District #6, directors Moses Woods, Harvey Harrison, teacher Calvin Sparker - 1840. Directors Moses Woods, Harvey Harrison, teacher Calvin J. Barker - 1841.

District #7, directors Benjamin Eakins, John Ketering, Lewis Auckermon, teacher George B. Reed - March 1, 1839, 3 month term. Directors Peter Lannze, W.W. Kester, teacher John Miller - 1840. Directors Peter Lantz, Wm. W. Kester, teacher John Miller - March 5, 1841.

District #8, directors James Clark, David Stephens, teacher Matthew Carl - March 9, 1839. Directors James Clark, John Puterbaugh, teacher James Caskey - 1841.

District #9, directors Henry Grow, Thomas Hines, teacher Archibald Smock - 1840. Directors Henry Grow, Thomas Hines, Joseph Heck, teacher Archibald Smock -1841.

District #10, directors Eason Sparks, Andrew Sparks, teacher Carlina Ruple - July 25, 1840. Director Andrew Sparks, teacher Bornhill Polly - March 10, 1840, teacher Carolina M. Ruple for quarter ending Nov. 1840. Directors Andrew Sparks, William Spencer, John Worner, teacher Barnhill Polley - 1841, one quarter.

District #4 was set aside but showed no money.
District #10 had a winter and a summer quarter.
While the first ten districts were set up in 1839 and 1840,

the eleventh was not set up until 1859. Number 12 at Glen Karn was not established until after 1882.

While these districts were all set up by 1840, it is not sure that each had buildings built this early. Perhaps some districts continued school in homes or deserted cabins? Most of the school buildings probably remained log and wood frame through 1845. Indeed #11 in 1859 was built wood frame.

The Curriculum

From an 1858 report to the clerk found in the Garst Museum: teacher C.W.M. Otwell, Greenville Twp., branches of study taught:

Alphabet
Spelling - McGuffey
Reading - McGuffey
Penmanship
Mental Arithmetic - Stodards
Written Arithmetic - Ray & Talbott
English - Grammar - Bulion

"When Geography was introduced in the schools (in Neave township), it was sung by the entire school while the teacher pointed to names and places on the map on the wall." (1933 "Greenville Advocate")

The township superintendent for German township in 1858 was A. Dickey. The Board of Education for 1866 were David Putman, J.M. Starbuck, and Harrod Mills.

The 1880 History of Darke, pg. 476, gives the number of school children enumerated in German Township in 1879 as 133 in Palestine school, and 515 in the other schools. "There are now eleven school buildings, besides the one situated in the village of Palestine, three of which belong to the colored settlement."

The school registers of Oakgrove School #13 in Greenville twp. in the possession of Herman and Margaret Unger provides a glimpse into the school books used:

In 1863/64 J.T. Martz used McGuffey's Speller and Series of Readers; Ray's Mental and Practical Arithmetics, and Algebra Piner's Grammar, McNally's Geography and Burritt's and Mattison's Astronomy.

Valeria F. Bishop in 1864/65 used texts: McGuffey's Spellers and Readers, Stodards Mental Arithmetic and Rays third part and Pines Grammar and McNallys Georgraphy.

Mollie E. Linn in 1886, March to June, taught reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, geography, eng. grammar, and map drawing.

1886/87, she increased her courses to reading, writing, spelling arithmetic, geography, eng. grammar, algebra, higher arithmetic, physiology, physical geo., and history.

O.R. Krickenberger (1892/93) used McGuffey's readers, and spellers, Ray's Arith., Harvey's Grammar, Steele's Phys., Eclectic Geo., Houston's Phys. Geog., Rays Algebra, Eclectic Penmanship, and Barne's History.

Also found in the register used by O.R. Krickenberger was this written in schedule of courses (included for the morning program - O.R. Krickenberger, 1892-3):

Opening Exercises	8:30 - 8:35
Chart Class	8:35 - 8:40
Fifth Reader	8:45 - 8:55
Fourth Reader	8:55 - 9:05
Third Reader	9:05 - 9:15
Second Reader	9:15 - 9:25
First Reader	9:25 - 9:30
Physiology A.	9:30 - 9:40
Physiology B.	9:40 - 9:50
Mental Arithmetic	9:50 - 10:00
Recess	10:00 - 10:15
Chart	10:15 - 10:20
First Reader	10:20 - 10:25
Second Reader	10:25 - 10:30
C. Arith.	10:30 - 10:45
B. Arith.	10:45 - 11:00
A. Arith.	11:00 - 11:20
Algebra	11:20 - 11:40
B. Spelling	11:40 - 11:50
A. Spelling	11:50 - 12:00
Noon	12:00 - 1:00
Chart	1:00 - 1:05
First Reader	1:05 - 1:10
Second Reader	1:10 - 1:15
Third Reader	1:15 - 1:20
A. History	1:20 - 1:30
B. History	1:30 - 1:40
A. Grammar	1:40 - 2:00
B. Grammar	2:00 - 2:30
Recess	2:30 - 2:45
Chart	2:45 - 2:50
First Reader	2:50 - 3:00
Second Reader	3:00 - 3:10
Third Reader	3:10 - 3:20
C. Geography	3:20 - 3:30
B. Geography	3:30 - 3:40
A. Geography	3:40 - 3:50
B. Spelling	3:50 - 3:55
A. Spelling	3:55 - 4:00
Roll Call	

This schedule written at the back of the register for 1890-1895.

Garst Museum has The Proceedings of the Darke County Teachers Institute held at Greenville Aug. 5-16, 1901, and also the proceedings held 1902.

The teachers attending the 1901 conference from German township included: Homer Jefferis, Palestine; Chas. Penny, Palestine; J.G. Cousins, Darke; Ethel Williams, Hollansburg; Chas. Koons, Palestine; Chas. Wilt, Palestine; Geo. Martz, Greenville; Geo. Duckwall, New Madison; Emma Harbison, Greenville; Harve Spencer, Hollansburg.

Those attending from Harrison township were Supt. U.S. Ray of New Madison, E.C. Mikesell of Brinley, Frank Bookwalter of Wileys, O.H. O'Dell of New Madison, No. 5 (see Hollansburg), Eva Heironimous, New Madison; Amzi Miller, New Madison; Ida Hartman, New Madison; Omar S. Brodrick, Hollansburg; Lelia Chenoweth, Glen Karn, O.L. Brodrick, Hollansburg; Roy Smelker, New Madison.

The teachers attending the 1902 conference from German township were: Homer Jeffries, Charles Perry, Edward Mason, Geo. Shoemaker, J.F. Cousins, Ethel Williams, L.C. Aukerman, T.J. Wilson, Chas. Wilt, Omer Brodrick, Emma Harbison, Lelia Chenoweth. From Hollansburg school was W. Ketring the principal, W.H. Brown, and Irma Jones of Glen Karn. From New Madison school was

M.A. Brown Supt., C.E. Fulkerson, Carrie Bowman and Edna Jones. From the Palestine School were O.E. Aukerman and Adah Baker. From the Weaver's Station school were John H. Browder Principal and Cora Hartman from New Madison.

The Darke County Board of Education published "Books recommended by the County and District Superintendents of Darke County, Ohio, August 1, 1915.

Economy System of Writing
New Educational Readers - Grades 1, 2, and 3
Riverside Readers - Grades 4, 5, and 6
Elson Readers - Grades 7 and 8
Wentworth-Smith Essentials of Arithmetic

Miller and Kinkead Language
Buehler's Grammar
Overton's New Physiologies
Montgomery's History
Hunt's Progressive Speller
Tarr-McMurry Geographies
Burkett, Stevens, Hill's Agriculture

Chas. A. Wilt was the county superintendent at this time, to the teachers of Darke County, Ohio.

"In the preparation of this course the needs of the average teacher of the one-room school have been the end kept constantly in view. I hope every teacher may employ its suggestions in the same spirit of earnest helpfulness with which it has been prepared and offered. I hope the teachers will adapt this course of study to their needs, rather than to slavishly adopt it. No course of study, however, good, can take the place of a live teacher. In other words, success is spelled by the loyalty of the leader, and in this instance loyalty in both the narrowest and broadest sense of the term means sympathy with the plan outlined in the course of study.

Chas. A. Wilt,
County Superintendent."
Oct. 25, 1915

This outline provided a schedule for the schools:

Forenoon

8:00 - 8:10 Opening Exercises
8:10 - 8:17 First Grade - Reading
8:17 - 8:25 Second Grade - Reading
8:25 - 8:35 Third Grade - Reading
8:35 - 8:50 Fourth Grade - Reading
8:50 - 9:10 Seventh and Eighth Grades - Arithmetic
9:10 - 9:30 Fifth and Sixth Grades - Arithmetic
9:30 - 9:45 Third and Fourth Grades - Arithmetic
9:45 - 10:00 Recess
10:00 - 10:07 First Grade - Number Work
10:07 - 10:15 Second Grade - Number Work
10:15 - 10:30 Seventh and Eighth Grades - Grammar
10:30 - 10:45 Fifth and Sixth Grades - Language
10:45 - 10:55 Third and Fourth Grades - Language
10:55 - 11:15 Seventh and Eighth Grades - Physiology on Monday and Tuesday.
Agriculture on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
11:15 - 11:30 Fifth and Sixth Grades - Physiology
11:30 - 12:30 Noon

Afternoon

12:30 - 12:37 First Grade - Reading
12:37 - 12:45 Second Grade - Reading
12:45 - 1:00 Seventh and Eighth Grades - Reading and Literature
1:00 - 1:10 Fifth and Sixth Grades - Reading and Literature
1:10 - 1:20 Third Grade - Reading
1:20 - 1:30 Fourth Grade - Reading
1:30 - 1:45 Seventh and Eighth Grades - History
1:45 - 2:00 All Grades - Writing
2:00 - 2:15 Recess
2:15 - 2:30 Fifth and Sixth Grades - History
2:30 - 2:35 First Grade - Reading
2:35 - 2:40 Second Grade - Reading
2:40 - 2:50 Third and Fourth Grades - General Recitation
2:50 - 3:05 Seventh and Eighth Grades - Geography
3:05 - 3:15 Fifth and Sixth Grades - Geography
3:15 - 3:20 Third and Fourth Grades - Spelling
3:20 - 3:25 Seventh and Eighth Grades - Spelling
3:25 - 3:30 Fifth and Sixth Grades Spelling
3:30 Dismissal

The Consolidated School (1919-Present)

Following the eras of the pioneer school and the district school comes the era of the consolidated school. With all the advantages of one teacher per grade and combined moneys going to a centralized school, Liberty township entered a new era in its school history. With better roads and motorized hacks, students no longer walked across fields to get their education.

The one-room schools of Liberty township consolidated with Palestine about 1919. Glen Karn went to Hollansburg as did some of the students from Dobson, Sourkraut, and Clark. Baker School continued into the 1940's when the students in this district went to New Madison, Greenville, or Palestine. Some of the Clark district students also had gone in with New Madison.

Consolidation of Palestine and Hollansburg School Districts formed the Liberty Local School District.

"On December 10, 1951, due to state regulations, Hollansburg was granted only a temporary charter until July 1, 1952.

"Palestine and Hollansburg consolidated in 1952, because Palestine couldn't meet the regulations either. The colored school, Long, also came in at this time.

"The elementary grades 1-8 go to Palestine now called Liberty Local, and the high school grades 9-12 are enrolled at the Hollansburg building which was named Westmont.

"In 1958 the Liberty and New Madison consolidation was put to the vote of the public, but on May 10, 1958, the request of consolidation was rescinded."

("History of Schools in Darke County" by Lura Ross and Jill Rush, April 14, 1961 - term paper for English and Am. History.)

Thus the Westmont Wildcats replaced the names of the Hollansburg Rams and the Palestine Golden Eagles.

Westmont and New Madison formed the Tri-Village school district in about 1969.

Palestine School

Following the pioneer school house near the Universalist church, the next school house appears to be west of Palestine near the present entrance to the Palestine recreational park. A school house is shown at this location on the 1857 plat.

1845 School - The beginnings of this school are found in the old Court of Common Pleas record book G-1, pg. 236 in the Darke County Clerk of Courts office. These records which bring to light the early beginnings of this school is a chancery between David Putman versus John D. Mills, et al. July 1851.

"In chancery Setting Your Petitioner David Putnam of said County, Respectfully represents that on or about the first day of Oct. A.D. 1845, at the County of Darke, Your petitioner John D. Mills, Abraham Weaver, William C. Deem, Alexander Montgomery, John M. Harter, John Norris, Calvin J. Parker (who resides in the State of Indiana), Amos Moyer, Daniel Keister, Peter C. Midoff, Samuel Fox, James Wilcox, George Keister, Ludwick Clapp, Edward Law, James Wilcox, Charles Wilcox, Isaac Jessop, Daniel Thompson, George Andrew, S.H. Woodmansee, W.B. Jones, William Freeman, James Woodmansee, Asa Woodmansee, Aleck Daval, David Kettring, Wm. W. Keister, David Kettring Jr., John Ketring, George Teaford, Harry Cloyd, C. Bearer, John Puterbaugh, Zachariah Friar, David Bryant, E. Lynch, resident in Indiana, Joshua Cloyd, B.C. Ross, Jacob Huffman, John Shiveley, and I.W. Manning entered into an association for the purpose of building a House at Palestine, in said County, for the purpose of a Seminary or high school, the articles and constitution of which association are herewith filed. Marked 'A' and made, part of this Bill; that your Petitioner and his associates made arrangements with Abraham Weaver for a lot of land, on which to erect said building to wit: five Rods Square out of said Weaver's farm, as described in said Constitution being a part of the said farm, right where the line running north between James Wilcox and H.C. Lattimers old place commencing right where Said line Strikes Said Weavers land thence West five Rods to the place of beginning: And your Petitioners represents that he and his Said associates pursuant to the object of their association proceeded to purchase lumber and the materials and to employ workmen in and about the building of Said House, and did build it upon Said lot of land at a cost of about Seven hundred dollars, that your petitioner furnished for that purpose diverse materials for said house and paid workmen for the same to the amount of three hundred and thirty one dollars and 55/100, of which amount, only one hundred and ten dollars and seventy cents has been paid. One hundred and ten dollars and 70/100, leaving a balance due your petitioners $220.85, against the said property and association of two hundred and twenty dollars and eighty five cents. Your petitioners further represent that the said Abraham Weaver, agreed and promised to make a Deed of conveyance to the said association for said lot of land as will appear reference being had to the Said articles, constitution and Subscription herewith filed, but that he has hitherto failed, or neglected to make such Deed.

"Upon the final hearing of this Bill, will decide that the said lot of Land with the said House theron be sold, and the proceeds after deducting the costs herein be applied to the payment of your petitioners account; and the accounts of said Weaver and Harter."

The court then asked the sheriff to sell the land.

Thus we see a very early interest in higher education in the community. It is not certain if, indeed, a high school was established, or just how many grades were taught at this school house. Page 256 of the 1900 *Biographies of Darke County* does, however, provide good evidence that the school functioned in a biography of James McCabe, "Having acquired a good education he commenced teaching school, in 1845, receiving his first certificate from John Briggs, one of the pioneers of the county. As they had no printed forms at that time, the certificate was all written. At that time the school houses were all of logs and most of them had greased-paper windows and very rude furnishings. His first school was in the Spring Hill district (Washington Twp.), but was then called the Ohler district. For eight years Mr. McCabe continued teaching, with good success, and came to German township in 1852, having charge of the school in Palestine, where the Teaford twin boys (Barney and George) were among his pupils. In 1854 he turned his attention to farming."

March 17, 1855, Abraham and Mary Weaver finally gave the deed for the school lot to the German township Board of Education which was composed of John Sherick, A.C. Deem, A.J. Sparks, Wm. C. Deem, Moses Woods, James Willcox Sen., Harrod Mills, and Thomas Coapstick. The location of the lot was described as commencing 74 rods 6 links west of the centre of main cross streets in the town of Palestine. Said line to run with road as now runs West. Thence north 8 rods, west 16 rods, south 8 rods and east 16 rods. (Deed book I-2-171)

March 3, 1862, the German township Board of Education sold the land and its conveyances to Benjamin Eakins Jr. who had earlier purchased the surrounding Weaver land (March 25, 1858; Deed book G-2-399). Lying in SE ¼ of section 15 and commencing 74 rods 6 links west of center of Main Cross Street in Palestine. (Deed book Y-2-62)

These records thus provide an interesting look at this school house that existed from 1845 to possibly 1862.

One other sidelight to this school building is taken from the 1880 *History of Darke County.* The Palestine Universalist Church had its first meetings starting in 1868 in the "old Palestine schoolhouse". It is quite probably that the church then had its early services in the 1845 school house.

1861 School - Sept. 16, 1861, Jesse and Ana Woods sold to the German township Board of Education, J.G. Norris, Harrod Mills, James Clark, G.W. Weaver, C.M. Armacost, William Rupe, Andrew Cloyd, and J.F. Wares, land for school. This deed record also states that the north half of section 23 shall remain a part of school subdistrict #2. So as the Palestine school was being located near Palestine, yet in section 23 of the old district #2, either the school was used jointly by both Palestine students and district #2 students while retaining the separate districts, or the #2 students had their own schoolhouse elsewhere. Records indicate the building went by the name of sub-school District No. 2.

The land was described as in the NW corner of the NW ¼ of section 23 (Deed book M-2-146). The nearness of this location to Palestine, the dates corresponding with a period

when Palestine may have been without a school building, leads to the conclusion that the Palestine school students used this building during this period.

Mrs. Adavier Wilcox Ross states that either her father Newt or her Aunt Malinda used to speak of the old school house that was across the road from where Miss Adavier now lives. Herman Ross used to plow up several of the bricks from the old school when he farmed the old school site.

From J.G. Norris' store ledger we find an account of sub-school Dis. No. 2. These records from Oct. 15, 1861 to Feb. 18, 1862 reveal when this brick building was erected. (Page 344 - Norris Ledger, Palestine)

			To paid Thos F. Chenoweth (Norris)	10.00
Oct.	15	1861	To paid Jon. Smock rock & sand	5.25
	28		C. Middleton for 23 Joices delivered	10.20
Nov.	1		William Willcox 18 days tending mason & c @ 75¢	13.50
	4		T.F. Chenoweth masoning Stone & Brick	37.00
			George Kester for Lime	5.00
	6		S.W. Ullery post on material as per receipt	50.00
	9		D. Kester for Hawling flooring	60.00
	9		J.G. Norris labor & superintending	18.00
	9		J.G. Norris for 48 days boarding @ 30¢ per day	18.00
	15		C. Middleton for Lath (Plastering)	6.20
	16		J.G. Norris for 7 days work @ 1.50 per day	10.50
	20		Jon Lindamott for sleepers Rafters & Lath	28.26
			Jon Lindamott for Nails (L. & W.)	80.00
			W.M. Argerbright Hawling Brick	13.85
Dec.	1		George Kester for Limb	5.00
			J.G. Norris 56 days Boarding @ 30 per day	16.80
			Matthew Thomas Joiner Work	35.00
			Jon. Thomas Joniner Work	35.00
			George Brooks for shingles	13.90
Jan.	9	1862	S.W. Ullery for building material	38.00
	10		Lemuel Stokes for plastering Lathing	14.25
			Lewis Bass for plastering Lathing	8.62
Feb.	11		Lumber Willcox & Ketring	15.25
	18		E. Ross for Shingles	8.75
			M. Judy for Brick	
			Wilson & Seers for oil Led & nails	4.96
			By order to M. Judy for Brick	25.00
			S. Kester for Haling brick	19.00
Nov.	6		J.G. Norris (out of county Treasury)	200.00
Nov.	6	1861	632 Brick & morter for repairing mill furnis (Norris)	4.79
			Sale of 100 Brick & morter for same to S. Dickey (Norris)	75.00
	12		Certificate to George Brooks for shingles (due)	8.34
			Certificate to George Brooks for shingles (payable Feb. 20, 1862)	5.56
			Sale of Brick & c to W. Crandell	2.50
	20		Certificate to Jonathan Lindamott	17.76
	30		Certificate to W.M. Argerbright	8.85
Dec.	17		Certificate to Matthew Thomas	35.00
			Certificate to Jon. Thomas	35.00
Jan.	9		Certificate to S.W. Ullery	38.00
	10		Certificate to Lem. Stokes	12.00
	10		Certificate to Lewis Bass	7.00
			Certificate to Thom. F. Chenoweth	27.00
Feb.	11		Certificate to Joseph Ketring	15.25
	18		Certificate to E. Ross	8.75

1870 School - March 21, 1870, Charles and Martha Wilcox sold 2.39 acres to the Board of Education of Palestine separate school district, S.B. Miller, James Harding, and J.W. Shively for $425.

This lot was in the SE ¼ of section 15 beginning on the section line 40 rods west from the SE corner of section 15

1870 School

thence north 40 rods to the center of Palestine and Tampico Turnpike thence west 9 rods, 14 links, south 40 rods, east 9 rods, 14 links.

It is not known when this school was built, but was completed by 1875 when it appeared on the 1875 plat.

This school had a recognized two year high school in 1904, and the first graduating class of 1906 had four members.

During these early years the high school and 7th and 8th grade were upstairs and the lower grades were downstairs in the two room building. One teacher took the upstairs and one the downstairs. Charles Wilt was the early high school principal, superintendant and high school faculty for Omar Dill, Mary (Simison) Burkheimer, and Croppy Harding. Ada Baker was one of the early grade school teachers during these earlier years.

An addition was built to this school sometime around 1910/11, and another teacher was added for the smaller grades, so that by 1912 there were 3 teachers at the school. Marshall A. Brown followed Charles Wilt as superintendant, and may have been the last superintendant at this building. Other teachers who taught the downstairs grades included Lizzie Spenser, Olga Jones, Isetta Simpson, and Lottie Metzgar.

When Chester Arnett moved into the area about 1908 or 1909, he took the Boxwell test at Greenville to qualify for high school, then attended the Palestine High School, continued with two more years after that. Many attended what was called post graduate work to qualify for teaching certificates or to just take extra classes.

Chester recalls Harter Wheeler was in charge of the high school, and Isetta Simpson taught the grade school. At that time Chester remembers that boys and girls all took all the courses offered. The students, in fact, would help teach many of the courses. He recalls agriculture, physics, geometry, English, botany, literature, physical geography, history. At that time, Chester could put on the board the en-

Palestine 1907 High School: front row l to r: Jesse Rush, Merle Jefferis, Wanda Wampler, Eunice Wilcox, Elsie Baker Warvel, Willard Clapp, Ralph Clapp, Charlie Wilt supt., 2nd row: Chalmer Mosier, Irvin Aukerman, Deo Teaford, Mary Baker, Frank Spencer, Omar Dill, Lottie Metzgar. Back row: Ada Wilcox, Ada Aukerman, Bessie Baker, Zo Wenrick, Alberta Wilcox, Mac Lane, Mary Simison, Claude Aukerman.

Lower Room, Palestine School. Oliver Wilcox teacher. Students included Frank Dickey, Jesse Woods, Omar Woods, Sandy Saylor.

tire four year history of events taking place through the Civil War. For physical education they would often play baseball and football in the yard.

September to December 1913 - The old two-story, two-room school was torn down after the spring class was out in 1913, but the new school was not ready for classes until January 1914. From September to December of 1913 school classed were held in the Putnam Building - Mrs. Roy Teaford started to first grade in this building; the Township Building - Croppy Harding went to school here; and the Corporation Building - Miss Adavier recalls one physics class she took in this building. Harter Wheeler was then the teacher for the high school. An alcohol lamp caught fire and Thurl Stephens grabbed the lamp to his stomach. Charles Bollinger and his cousin Roscoe Lynch grabbed the two-wheel fire truck in the corporation building. Lavira Stover dropped a jar of mercury in the excitement, and Miss Adavier used a silver spoon to clean up the mercury scattering beadingly over the floor. The corporation building was a

Old School Grounds. Fence taken down 1905/06 recalls Omar Dill. Two houses east of school grounds moved when 1923 school built. Phil Manuel lives in the house moved east across the alley from lot 53 to lot 52. Other house on lot 54 moved across 36 to present location just west of Marvin Oda. Coal Shed west of school. Miss Adavier recalls the students used to make apple butter from the orchard west of the old school.

frame building just west of the old Township Hall.

"In the beginning all subjects were taught by one superman, Harter Wheeler, who posted on the blackboard every morning a quotation from some good author for all of us to copy and memorize. I still value that 'memory gem' project highly, for those quotations are now like old friends when they now and then pop into mind. We took tests on them at the end of each semester, so we felt obliged to try to memorize them.

"The next summer (1913) the old frame building was razed and an ambitious new one of six large rooms was erected. We were in temporary housing downtown for most of my Sophomore year, the elementary classes in the old Putman House on the corner and high school classes on the second floor of the old Township House. Another teacher, Jesse Garrison, came from Arcanum to assist Mr. Wheeler, but stayed only one year. When we moved into the new building, we had in his place Lester J. DeFord, son of Dr. DeFord of Rossburg. 'Red' DeFord was small and energetic, and wore a derby hat at a cocky angle. He was especially interested in athletics, and the outdoor basketball court that had been started by Mr. Wheeler became busier than ever. One time we played in Arcanum. On this trip, a bitter cold night, Carl Mills broke his arm cranking his father's Ford when we were ready to start home.

"Basketball was a rather new game, and at Palestine we played it on an outdoor court, or sometimes in the second floor at the old Township House with gasoline lamps and no out-of-bounds. There were no county schools with gymnasiums in those days. Harter Wheeler, and later, Lester DeFord, coached our team." (Thomas K. Wenrick)

1914 Building - "A new brick school house was erected having six rooms, at a cost of about $15,000 in 1913, which is still being used. Located on the south side of Cross Street near the western limits of the village of Palestine. This school became a second grade high school in 1914 with six graduates. In 1919 it became a First Grade high school with nine pupils graduating. The last graduating class consisted of 19 members in 1952." (Ada Mikesell and Helen Graham)

This building was built on the same location as the 1870 school. This school had six rooms and the teaching staff was increased to probably five, possibly six teachers. In 1913 Harter Wheeler and Jesse Garrison had the 3 year high school and the 7th and 8th grade classes. The three year high school lasted until 1918 when went to four year high school.

Clarabelle (Shade) Fellers recalls Dr. Carl Puterbaugh -algebra, general science, Miss Sirm - Spanish and English, Mrs. Clay Bennett - Spanish, English, Mr. Pyles - science. Mr. Pyles, the superintendant, gave Clarabelle quite a rousing discussion on evolution. There was a Mr. Garber, Garver, or Garbig who taught physics and upper classes. The high school was in two rooms and an office in the rear of the building. The freshmen and seniors were in the SE corner and the juniors and sophomores in the SW corner.

Programs such as class plays and some graduations were held in the KP Hall. Some graduations were at the Universalist Church. The boys also played basketball in the KP Hall. And at least once traveled to Spartanburg for a basketball game.

The teachers would sometimes come to the rooms, and sometimes the students would go to another room or the office for class.

The four other rooms were for grades and four teachers there included Fern Siniard, Adavier Wilcox, Gladys Perry,

New Sidewalk

1914 School

Louvera Stover's 7th & 8th class, about 1920/21.

5th & 6th grade room 1922, Gladys Perry teacher.
Standing l to r: Foy Hill, Raymond Saylor, Chas. Monks, Armon Rolfe, Rill Jefferis, Glenn Hiatt, Dellis Runner, Mary Peden, Helen Rush, Florence Cloyd, Mable Rexrode, Gladys Perry. Seated l to r: Edna Flatter, Olive Koontz, Ollum, Olive Phillips, Francis Metzcar, ? , Zelma Ketring, Chas. Stuck, Guy Perry, Martha Lee Manual, ? , Zella King, Opha Harsh, Raymond Spencer, Nelson Mowery, ? , ? , Gerald Mikesell, Alice Lindamood Ritz, ? , Elizabeth Hoffman, Omar Siniard, Naomi Tejan, Herman Ketring, Boyd Woods, Harlan Farmer, Marjorie Cultice, ?

Thurl Stephens.

The high school students at this time could choose some of their courses.

There were three chimneys in this building - each chimney for back to back furnaces in each of the six rooms. The janitors - Sam and Belva Upton - kept buckets of coal outside the rooms in the hall for the janitor or teacher to add to the furnace during the day.

Fern Siniard began teaching grade school in 1920. At the time she started teaching, there were six teachers - four grade and two high school with Ada Morris the superintendant. Later superintendants were Miss Whitacer(?), Thurl Stephens, Carl Smith, Emerson Lephart.

1924 Building - While the first graduating class of this new building was 1925, there were a few events that took place in the building before it was completed. As this building had flush toilets, students from the old school used them in 1923/24. The junior-senior reception was held in the new building for the seniors of 1924, and the class of 1924 graduated from the stage of this building, although they hadn't gone to school in the building.

This new school had Miss Williams - English, Thurl Stephens - history, Miss Minnich - home economics. The present cafeteria was a home economics room where Miss Minnich taught the girls to cook, make pillow slips, basketball bloomers, and senior dresses.

"At a recent meeting of the Palestine Board of Education, the following teachers were rehired for the 1938-39 school year: Supt. V.S. Cassel high school teachers: Miss Dininger, Miss White, Miss Herman, Miss Laub, Mr. E. Roberts coach and Principal, grade teachers: Miss Adavier Wilcox, Miss Bayman, Mr. Noll, Mr. Stephens." (1938 "Recorder")

School Hacks - While the horse-drawn school hacks may have started around 1910 or 1911, the first motorized hack in Darke County was Joe Ross's. In 1918, Joe ran his Model "T" for Palestine. The bus had a hack body that could be taken off so grain could be hauled in the truck during the summer months. The first hack used to make two runs, also some horse hacks were being used. Earl Harp had a horse hack or two. Charlie Stover drove one. The King girls had a hack.

Beatrice Wilson recalls riding on two-horse drawn school hacks to school. Herschel Ross would help the kids get ready for school if they were not ready when the hack arrived. Beatrice recalls a few times when roads were real bad, they would be picked up in a bobsled to go to school. The King girls drove a hack while they were still in school, so would leave school early to get hack and horses ready at livery.

By 1923, there were as many as five or six hacks being used. Herschel Ross's hack had chain drive and solid tires. Herman Ross's hack had solid tires. Chenoweth sold Fords out of Glen Karn and Earl House bought a hack there. Herman Ross bought a 1916 Model "T" and drove it. The school board owned the bodies, and put on individuals' trucks. Herschel Ross contracted as many as four trucks. In 1927 he put in new engines. All these hacks drove double routes. Jesse Royer drove a hack for Herschel. Willard Parent owned at least three hacks. Chester Greer, Willard, and Omar Dill drove these.

The school bought its first buses - two Chevrolets, about 1930 or 31 models. Omar Dill drove one of these. They bought a new Dodge in the 1930's. The school owned all its own buses by 1935.

"New Bus - This year, the school board bought a new school bus to replace the old one (No. 3). The driver is Ray Spencer, who hauls school children from Washington Township. All the buses were taken to Greenville, October 10 for inspection. All the buses passed the examination. The other bus drivers for this year (1938) are as follows: LeRoy Dill No. 1, Lacy Saylor No. 2, Ray Spencer No. 3, John Arnett No. 4." (1938 "Recorder")

John Siniard checking new school construction (1913).

Room 1. 1920-21, Palestine School, Fern Siniard teacher.

Palestine High School Students - Results of a five days' examination held in the High School Room at Palestine were given in a January 13, 1892 Greenville newspaper. Names listed in the A class were: Rhoda Calderwood, Eva Armstrong, Charles Biddle, Elmer Lantz, and Nerva Wilcox.

1924 School

Early School Hack Lacy Saylor rode.

Clarence and Mary Runner with School Hack.

Those in B Class were Leonard Michael, Retta Armstrong, Frank Dickey, Charles Wilt, J.D. Aukerman, Mattie Wilcox, Orville Aukerman, and Ollie Wilcox.

Those in C Class were: Earl Calderwood, Curtis Calderwood, Ressie Hill, Nora Dill, Ora Pickens, Albia Hill, Willie Rush, Omer Woods, Coble Saylor, Elsie Harding, Harley Monks, Bertha Heck, Bertha Switzer, Orlando Biddle, C.W. Stahr, J.H. Judy, and Jessie Picken.

"In oral spelling of 1,126 words, Leonard Michael and Eva Armstrong were first in the A Classes. Nora Dill and Frank Dickey in the B Class. Linnie Browder and Orlando Browder in the C Class.

J.H. Browder, Teacher."

"The result of the examination of those pupils whose average is ninety or over in the Primary Department, Palestine Special School: Maud Owens, May Tucker, Vernie Michael, Ivan Sayler, Rosco McCabe, Honnah Dill, Merle Saylor, Myrtle Cloyd, Ethel Monks, May Woods.

Chas Harp, Teacher."

An early school register for Palestine High School for the years 1893/94, 1894/95, 1895/96, 1896/97, 1897/98. These school terms generally started the middle of September and ended the first to middle of April. These students tuitions were paid by their respective school sub-districts.

The high school students and their ages for the 1893/94 term were: Elsie Harding 14, Louisa Tucker 12, Zelma Bortner 15, Elva Bortner 10, Eva Armstrong 19, Retta Armstrong 17, Ona Coble 15, Bertha Heck 14, Ora Pickens 16, Jessie Pickens 15, May Woods 14, Lena Browder 14, Nora Dill 18, Ressie Hill 15, Edna Hayes, Nerva Wilcox 20, Lutitia Lantz 17. Charles Stahr 16, Charles Wilt 18, Earl Calderwood 16, Curtis Calderwood 13, Omar Woods 15, Willie Rush 15, J.H. Judy 15, Coble Saylor 17, Albia Hill 16, Harley Monks 16, Iven Saylor 14, Orville Aukerman 19, Ora Bortner 13, Addison Parent 18, Orlando Biddle 17, Squire Flatter 19, Frank Dickey 20, L.W. Michael 19, Mr. A.E. Pearson, Jennie Chrisler 14, Merle Saylor 11, Ethel Monks 14, Verna Michael 12, Hannah Dill 11, Frank Elston 15.

The high school students for the years 1894/95 were: Curtis Calderwood 14, Earl Calderwood 17, Chas. T. Perry 15, Holly Judy 16, Omar Woods 16, Alba Hill 17, Earnest Teaford 17, Chas. Biddle 23, Coble Saylor 18, Harley Monks 17, Iven Saylor 15, Orville Aukerman 20, Ora Bortner 14, Lee Bortner 13, C.W. Stahr 17, David Keener, R.C. Owens, Zelma Bortner 16, Elva Bortner 11, Merle Saylor 12, Verna Michael 12, Ethel Monks 15, Louisa Tucker 13, Elsie Harding 15, Jessie Pickens 15, Eva Armstrong 20, Retta Armstrong 18, Bertha Heck 15, Edna Heck 14, Myrtle Cloyd 13, May Woods 14, Ressie Hill 16, Rhoda Calderwood 20, Jennie Crisler 15, Ora Pickens 17, Lena Browder 15, Hannah Dill 12, Darotha Replogle 14, Lula Fryar 13, Retta Parent 17, Ona Coble 16.

Those registered for the 1895/96 school year included: Elva Bortner, Zelma Bortner, Elsie Harding, Ethel Monks, Retta Armstrong, Jessie Pickens, Merle Saylor, Myrtle Cloyd, Ressie Hill, Louisa Tucker, Hannah Dill, Bertha Heck, Ora Pickens, May Woods, Retta Parent, Edna Heck, Verna Harding, Cora Lantz, May Pickens. Curtis Calderwood, C.W. Stahr, Coble Saylor, Harley Monks, Alba Hill, David Keener, Chas Perry, Holly Judy, Marva Jefferis, Iven Saylor, Orville Aukerman, Odlin Hill, Harold Wilt, Clarence Woods, Omar Woods, Jimmie Woods, Ora Bort-

ner, Lee Bortner.

The high school students at Palestine in 1896/97 were: Elva Bortner 14, Merle Saylor 14, Myrtle Cloyd 15, Verna Harding 12, Cora Lantz 14, May Pickens 13, Cora Biddle 14, Ethel Monks 17, May Tucker 16, Elsie Harding 17, Ella Wilcox 12, Jessie Pickens 18, Hannah Dill 15, Ressie Hill 18, May Woods 16, Bertha Eakins 14, Harold Wilt 16, Edward Stahr 14, Fred Hiatt 13, Hoy Ross 14, Charley Davidson 12, Curtis Calderwood 16, Odlin Hill 16, Clarence Woods 13, Jimmie Woods 12, Harley Monks 19, Albia Hill 19, Holly Judy 18, Coble Saylor 20.

The 1897/98 school year had students: Vernie Harding 13, May Pickens 14, Cora Lantz 15, Cora Biddle 15, Ella Wilcox 13, Delsie Schneck 13, Merle Saylor 15, Hannah Dill 15, Elsie Harding 18, Jessie Pickens 18, Myrtle Cloyd 16, Pearl Clear 14, Harold Wild 18, Charles Davidson 13, Odlin Hill 17, Edward Stahr 15, Hoy Ross 14, Fred Hiatt 15, Albia Hill 20, Frank Tucker 13, Charlie Teaford 15, James Woods 13, S.J. Hoke, G.G. Monks 20, Clarence Woods 15, Casta Sinks.

Another school registry book gives the Palestine High School students enrolled for the terms 1898/99 under teacher R.C. Owens, 1899/1900 under teacher R.C. Owens, 1900/01 under teacher O.E. Aukerman.

The high school students in 1898/99 were: Cora Biddle 16, Pearl Clear 15, Myrtle Cloyd 17, Hannah Dill 16, Ola Dill 14, Cora Hill 13, Ada Hill 14, Verna Harding 15, Ressie Hill 20, Elsie Harding 20, Hallie Ketring 18, Jessie Pickens 20, May Pickens 16, Delcie Schneck 14, Merle Saylor 17, Hazel Saylor 15, Lottie Ware 12, Ella Wilcox 15, Chancy Cloyd 14, Charles Davidson 14, Fred Hiatt 16, Odlin Hill 18, Hollie Judy 20, Harley Monks 21, Leo Rush 14, Hoy Ross 15, Willie Saylor 13, Frank Tucker 14, Russel Teaford 24, Harold Wilt 19, James Woods 15.

The students for 1899/1900 were: Cora Biddle, Pearl Clear, Myrtle Cloyd, Hannah Dill, Ola Dill, Cora Hill, Ada Hill, Verna Harding, May Pickens, Hazel Ross, Blanche Sink, Delcie Schneck, Merle Saylor, Hazel Saylor, Anna Kerns, Lottie Ware, Ella Wilcox, Chancy Cloyd, Jesse Cloyd, Chas Davidson, Burkey Lantz, Odlin Hill, Hoy Ross, Hoy Kester, Jesse Ross, Chas Norris, Willie Saylor, Casta Sinks, Harold Wilt, James Woods, Frank Puterbaugh, Ralph Spencer.

The students for 1900/01 were: Ella Wilcox 15, Grace Kerst 15, Lottie Ware 14, Blanch Sink 13, Ada Hill 16, Cora Hill 15, Hazel Ross 12, Delcie Schneck 16, May Pickens 17, Viola Dill 16, Hazel Saylor 16, Odlin Hill 20, James Woods 16, Ralph Spencer 13, Jesse Cloyd 13, Hoy Kester 14, Leo Rush 16, Willie Saylor 15, Chance Cloyd 16, Jesse Ross 15, Burkey Lantz 15.

In 1901 O.E. Aukerman was principal of the Palestine School and L.C. Aukerman was the primary teacher. By 1906 Charles Wilt is the superintendant.

Helen Graham and Ada Mikesell put together a list of Palestine graduating classes from 1906 to 1952.

Class of 1906: Mae (Lane) Teaford, Hazel (Ross) Dininger, Chloe (Stephens) Byrd, Ollie (Jefferis) Lane.

Class of 1907: Zoe (Wenrick) Detling, Jack Simison, Kenneth Sink.

Class of 1909: Mary (Baker) Spencer, Carl Jefferis, Deo Teaford, Mary (Simison) Berkheimer, Omar Dill.

Class of 1910: Eunice (Wilcox) Alexander, Merle (Jefferis) Graham, Alberta Creager, Grover Miller, Lottie (Metzcar) Pendulum, Chas. Willard Clapp.

Class of 1911: Grace (Jefferis) Harp, Nellie (Epps) Mason, Chester Arnett, Jesse Rush, Cecil (Jessup) Wade, Anna (Clemens) Bass, Gussie Clemens, Elsie (Baker) Leas, Irma (Mason) Goens, Reuben Sellman, Tafey McCown, Merle Epps, Chester Goens, Earl Clemens, Luveria (Stover) Hershey.

Class of 1912: Adavier (Wilcox) Ross, Charles Bollinger.

Class of 1913: Lenore (Wilcox) Alexander, Marie (Dill) Spencer, Mary Burden, Thurl Stephens, Roscoe Lynch.

Class of 1914, second grade high school: Lenore (Wilcox) Alexander, Adavier (Wilcox) Ross, Thurl Stephens, Roscoe Lynch, Charles Bollinger, Luveria (Stover) Hershey.

Class of 1915: Thomas Wenrick, George Baker, Cliff Epps, Inez (Cole) Katzenbarger, Georgia (Davis) Groendyke.

Class of 1916: Dr. Carl Puterbaugh, Carl Mills, Mae (Mills) Hershey, Lucille (Manuel) McCabe, Ila McCowen, Annice Mason.

Class of 1917: Helen (Starbuck) Gilbert, Thelman (Michael) Sharar, Gladys (Perry) Shockney, Blanche (Manuel) Stephens, Carl Cole, William Marker, Clement McCabe.

Class of 1918: Herman Throp, Eco (Rolfe) Cole, Noel Harding, Orville Baker, Ray Wagner, Meda McCown, Hazel Burden, Edna (Koontz) Phillips, Harry Cole.

Class of 1919, first grade high school: Herman Throp, Eco (Rolfe) Cole, Noel Harding, Orville Baker, Adavier (Wilcox) Ross, Ray Wagner, Edna (Koontz) Phillips, Mary Warner, Blanche (Manuel) Stephens.

Class of 1920: Sylvia (Marker) Taylor, Louise (Harding) Manuel, George McCabe, Elsie (Koontz) Warvel, Deo Dill.

Class of 1921: Helen (Mills) Grow, Betty Manuel, Robert Manuel, Mildred (Hiatt) Clark.

Class of 1922: Esther (House) Riegle, Elbert Teaford, Herbert Clapp, Elmer Royer, Harry Phillips, Goldie (Harsh) Murray.

Class of 1923: Sylvia Koons, Opal (Sinks) Mutchner, Mary Elizabeth (Hoffman) Latham, Elizabeth (Pierce) Johnston, Ethel (Phillips) Moore, Norma (Teaford) Lindamood, Roma (Schlecty) Sellers, M. Eugene Shields, Leona (Deeter) Pipenger, Frank Perry, Thomas Perry.

Class of 1924: Agnes (Royer) Long, Helen (Throp) Hornaday, Hazel (Throp) Alley, Marcil (Poling) Traucht, Edyth Cultice, Elsie (Stump) Young, Mary (Van Fleet) Davis, Treva (Shepherd) Driver, Esther Clester.

Class of 1925: Herbert Perry, Glen Mills, Gale Teaford, Lacy Saylor, Carl J. Phillips, Claribel (Shade) Fellers, Genevieve (Wilcox) Albright, Thora (Manuel) Wampler, Alma (Wilson) Kern, Florence (Burden) Archie.

Class of 1926: Irene (Tejan) Kissinger, Alice (Rush) Kuester, William John Deeter, Lee Houpt, Robert Stuck, Marlene (Oswalt) King, Emma (Sellman) Lloyd, Mary (Throp) Perry, Madonna (Janes) Lemmons, Norma (Shields) Lowdenslager, Mildred (Holland) Plair, Cecil Stephens, Eugene King, Everett Rank.

Class of 1927: Edythe (Hawkey) Cain, Mary (Hawkey) Kelley, Jeanne (Miller) Teaford, Louise (Ross) North, Troy Phillips, Gratina (Carpenter) Patterson, Bessie (Deeter) Long, Virginia (Stuck) Carter, Elwood Shepherd, Verle Hiatt, Leonard Holland.

Class of 1928: Alice Hoffman, Naomi (Tejan) Noll, Nellie (Mowery) Wimmer, Marthalie (Manuel) Slorp, Helen

Palestine School 1924. Top row l to r: Lottie Metzcar, Harter Wheeler, Garrison. Second Row l to r: Ogretta Miller, Georgia Davis, Izetta Simpson, Roscoe Lynch, George Baker, Carl Puterbaugh, Thurl Stephens, Charles Bollinger, Merle Epps, Carl Cole, Carl Mills, Tom Wenrick, Clement McCabe, Tafel McCown. Third Row l to r: Herman Ross, John Siniard, Elbert Teaford, George Flatter, Harry Phillips, Oral Lowdenslager, Rol Manual, Deo Dill, Herbert Clapp, Eugene Shields, Glen Flatter, Mary Ketring, Gene Davis, Lessie Runner, Sylvia Koons, Helen Starbuck, Edna Koontz, Mae Mills, Lucille Manual, Florence Davis, Erma Mason, Gladys Perry, Jones? Fourth Row l to r: Lenore Wilcox, Stahr, Carie Burden, George McCabe, ? , Robert Manual, Ester Siniard, Thelma Teaford, Burden, Jones, Burden, Lee Houpt, ? , Carl Phillips.

Fifth Row l to r: Louvera Stover, Adavier Wilcox, Inez Cole, Hazel Burden, Leah Jefferis, Edwards, Ethel Phillips, ? , ? , Alice Siniard, Glen Flatter, Lowell Jefferis, Jones, ? , ? , ? , Homer Ross, ? , Herbert Perry. Front l to r: Gale Teaford, Milton Jefferis, Ooten, Jean Miller, Genevieve Wilcox, Louise Teaford, Ooten, Thora Manual, Norma Shields, Edna Flatter, Rill Jefferis, Ooten, Retha Flatter, Margarite Jefferis, Ofie Runner, Noel Harding, Tom Perry, Louise Harding, Arbie Corder, Elsie Koons, Thelma Mosier, Martha Edwards, Ilah Houpt

(Rush) Custer, Hazel (Stump) Sipe, Rill Jefferis, Dale Teaford, Herbert Rank, Helen (Schultz) Rank, Armon Rolfe, Omar Siniard, Glenn Hiatt.

Class of 1929: Olive (Irvin) Ullom, Olive (Phillips) Alexander, Loucile (Kester) Wiley, Frances (Metzcar) Fetters, Glen Shade, Naomi McKee, Lowell Hawkey, Charles Ray Davis.

Class of 1930: Byron Wilt, Dr. Chas. Ross, Marthalice (Siefman) Morrin, Mabel (Stump) Campbell, Mary (Smith) Jefferis, Virgil Deeter, Jesse Royer, Gale Heck, Herman Mason, Grace (Runner) Ketring, Jesse Hoffman.

Class of 1931: Pauline (Monks) Vines, May (Throp) Deeter, Fay (Throp) Teboe, Berman Oswalt, Ruth (Light) Deeter, Robert Shively, Mary Ellen (Phillips) Wolf, Beulah (Onkst) Everhart, Thisba (Lane) Stephens, Henrietta (Sellman) Dille, Donald Thomas, Louise (Mills) Teaford, Milford Vance, Orpha (Price) Sayers, Harley Carpenter, Robert Rife, Ruth (Becktold) Paulus.

Class of 1932: Mabel Pauline (Rush) Everhart, Anna (Koons) Bowman, Rachael (Baker) Harter, Marguerite (Inman) Crowel, Mary K. (Tejan) Weaver, Virginia (Teaford) Grant, Gladys (Shade) Longfellow, Paul Norris, Dale Wilt, Marvin Oda, Marvin Hawkey, Ray E. Spencer, Charles Norris, Richard Shively, David Clements, Pauline (Bratschi) Bowser, Harold Arnett.

Class of 1933: Helen (Winthrow) Geddis, Beulah (Phillips) DeMoss, Mary (Teaford) Miley, Louise (Sellman) Johnston, Winifred (Bechtold) Blumenstock, Norman Stuck, Mildred (Smith) Stuck, Mary (Spencer) Slade, Thomas J. Ross, David J. Ross, Harold Harter, Guy Runner, Dale Saylor, Bonita (Inman) Crawford, Lowell Holland, Glen Thomas, J.R. Dininger.

Class of 1934: Regina (Troutman) Geiger, Virginia Bollinger, Martha (Warner) Eley, Perdita (Spencer) Baird, Forest Price, Daniel Shively, Chalmer Koons, Herschel Young, Willard Farmer, Walter Throp, Howard Lease, Netum Harris, Audre (Lane) Ulrich, Evelyn (Janes) Miller, Robert Hawkey, Raymond Tharp, LeRoy Dill.

Class of 1935: June (Ross) Eikenberry, Phyllis (Jefferis) Livingston, Joan (Manuel) Winterrowd, Dorothy (Harris) Lehman, Norene (Spencer) Farmer, Mary (Hiatt) Garbig, Eileen (Wilcox) Slick, Neva (Wagner) Onkst, Mary Evelyn (Norris) Price, W. Milton Tejan, Paul M. Rush, Harold (Tom) Withrow, Robert Niswonger, Raymond Hawkey, William F. Jones, Marion Short, Marion Rife, Dorothy (Gibson) Crawford, Bernice (Metzcar) Lease.

Class of 1936: Mary Virginia (Parent) Amburgy, Harriet (Shively) Hoff, Jesse Miller, Irene (Harter) Holden, Donald Dill, Roy Price, Abby Nell (Harris) Dispenette, Dale Hawkey, Ruthmae (Phillips) Hamilton, Virginia (Burns) Daughtery, Myron O. Wilcox, Madeline (Flatter) Rhoades, Darrel Fernsler, Caroline (Dininger) Singer, Gene Wilt, Roy Spicer, Marthalea (Stephens) Fowble.

Class of 1937: Mildred (Niswonger) Haworth, Ruth Rudy, Iva (Jones) Sawyer, Betty (Mills) Coning, Willard J. Price, James Mikesell, Merle Monks Grigsby, Philip Manuel, Junior Hudkins, E. Lowell Rife, A.D. Sharp, Nellie (Spencer) Lease, Loveria (Carpenter) Osman, Dorothy Dillard, Vern Clemens, Maxine (Miller) Applegate, Kathryn (Hughes) Burns.

Class of 1938: Iola (Hoke) Stanze, Phyllis (Cole) Dubbs, Naomi Ruth (Rife) Flatter, Eunice (King) Cover, Gladys (Spencer) Rhoades, Ireta (Miller) Beard, Robert Parent, Mary (Royer) Harsh, Martha (Withrow) Deeter, Harold Deeter, Ray Rush, Leo Phillips, Herman Lowdenslager, Louis Stephens, Doyle Gibson, Esther (Detling) Haines, Emil Rush.

Class of 1939: Pauline (Kelley) Windmiller, June (Hiatt) Booker, Naomi (Price) Slick, Barbara (Noggle) Moore, Aileen Harbison, Lena Marie (Lane) McHarg, Doris Mae (Clemens) Swaney, Betty (Miller) Brumbaugh, Doris (Spencer) Thomas, Margaret (Brinley) Thomas, Arvilla Josephine (Clemens) Smith, James Clapp, John Jones Sr., Elmer Price, Howard Kerst, Robert Sharp, Robert Stapleton, Juanita (Harsh) Hines, Walter Bromagen, Harold Warvel.

Class of 1940: Sarah (Grim) Carter, Harold D. Stephens, Clyde Landis, Richard Wilt, James Mills, Peggy (Teaford) Wolfe, Eugene Holland, Paul Saylor, Esther (Phillips) Lewis, Rush Light, Margaret (Kivlan) Jones.

Class of 1941: Irene (Landis) Light, Leona (Teaford) Francis, George Warvel, Ben R. Cole, Charles Graham, Nova (Kelley) Rogers, Joe Manning, Mabel (Lamb) Bass, Nellie (Epps) Spicer.

Class of 1942: Robert Wilt, Maxine (Sharp) Bruss, Carol (Flora) Rumble, Ross Miller, Betty (Teaford) Lindley, Glendon Pipenger, Eugene Clark, Vivian (Wright) Gwinnup, Lester Neal, Dorothy (Rudy) Grubbs, Cleo (Goens) Mason, Gloria (Richman) Hickman, Harold Dill, Winifred (Funk) Beyke, Treva (Shoemaker) Supinger, Donald Harsh, Lee Graham, Eugene McCowan.

Class of 1943: Mable (Phillips) Burckle, Nancy (Lantz) Lammott, Winifred (Hathaway) Pipenger, Russell Mikesell Jr., Anna Maxine (Fowble) Alexander, Harold Cole, Wayne Clemens, Mary Ellen (Ross) Duncan, Jeanne (Withrow) Barr, Patty (Marshall) Pipenger, Eva Lou (Manuel) Bigelow, Eugene Clapp, Richard Deeter, Frank Graham.

Class of 1944: Lowell Leas, Dave Pipenger, Herbert Saylor, Paul Warvel, Melvin Spencer Sr., James Holland, Marlene (Saylor) Mills, Maxine (Saylor) Burkett, Norma (Kelley) Flora, Joan (Klase) Wakelan, Bonnie (Teaford) Houdishell, Evelyn (Oda) Harshman, Vauda (Price) Paul, Juanita (Funk) Goodpasture, Marion Stephens, Lois (Lindamood) Hines.

Class of 1945: Joan (Cole) Clark, Helen (Dill) Feazel, Elberta (Dixon) Warren, Carol (Edger) Landis, Dorothy (Janes) Laux, George Liette, Wayne Linder, Victor Sharp, Gerald Stephens, Kate (Stephens) Mote, Phyllis (Lindamood) Snyder, Norman Clemens, Lee Riegle.

Class of 1946: Marcella (Kelley) Sink, Evelyn (Stevens) Clark, Donna Mae (Teaford) Ruse, Beverly (DeVelbiss) Eyer, Betty Jo (Ferguson) Smith, Betty (Bruner) Wilt, Mary (Ayette) Fisher, Gloria (Harless) Hollinger, Joan (Jones) McCall, Pat (Rexrode) Arnett, Donna (Stephens) Willison, Fred Clark, Wm. J. Holland, Daniel Jett, Don Laux, Junior Marshall.

Class of 1947: Kenneth Oliver, Kenneth Niswonger, Ray Richards, Duane Goens, Wm. A. Nestor, Harry Poling, Robert Wilson, John Tharp, Noel Marshall, Joan (Archie) Burden, Martha (Grim) Warvel, Mary Lou (Hapner) Laux, Helen (Lowdenslager) Graham, Mabel (Waymire) Schlechty, Ada Marie (Runner) Mikesell, Betty (Stevens) Carpenter.

Class of 1948: Anna (Dill) Bowen, Patty (Wilt) Royer, Mary E. (Fellers) Wilson, Florence (Garber) Deaton, Gloria (Stevens) Epps, Wilbur Bevins, Joe Graham, Glen Jay

Kindergarten through Second grade students now use these buildings.

Mikesell, Robert Shields, Jack Collins, Paul Ayette, Carl Graham.

Class of 1949: Marilyn (Archie) Fackson, Dorothy (Bevins) Cloyd, Charlotte (Burden) Holland, Betty (Fellers) Mixon, Avesta (Grim) Fritz, Zella (Hammontree) Shields, Margaret Ann (Hiatt) Ayette, Jeannette (Marshall) Burns, Betty (Miller) Metzcar, James Cloyd, John Mikesell, Paul Runner, Dwight Stump.

Class of 1950: Robert Graham, Helen (House) Stump, Bob Janes, Donna (Fellers) Bixler, Betty (Harsh) Eve, Eugene Kelley, Paul Deeter, Richard Baker, Doris (Teaford) Curtis, Doris (McClurg) Noe, Shirley (Harless) Baker, Gene Routzong.

Class of 1951: Phyllis (Archie) Wood, Marcella (Bowman) Hoblit, Doyle Burns, Mary Lou Conyers, Lowell Dill, Richard Epps, Betty (Grim) Routzong, Barbara (Hope) Griffith, Lowell House, George Jaschek, Patricia (Lindamood) Graham, Richard Mikesell, Bill Rich, Carolyn (Teaford) Bourne, Diana (Wenrick) Landesman, Ronald Peters, Lora Lee (Parent) Peters, Herman Hammontree.

Class of 1952: Norman Cloyd Jr., Duane Denniston, Mary (Eaton) Terry, Glenda (Graham) Howell, Jane (House) Stump, Clyde Stump, Donald Hurd, Lois (Kelley) Flora, Marilyn (Lindamood) Myers, Carol (Marshall) Tittle, Jerry Murphy, Glenna (Newton) Deeter, Carroll Puckett, Sue (Sipe) Brooks, Joan (Snyder) Abner, Jeanne (Turner) Folkerth, Maryalice (Wilson) Brewer, Harold D. Young, Joe Jett.

School #1 Sassafras College

This school district serviced the northeast corner of German township. The original location of the school is shown on the 1857 plat near the center of section 12, and on the old road from Baker to Nashville.

August 18, 1854, Ira Q. and America Sinks sold to the German township Board of Education Wm. C. Deem, Thomas Copestick, James Wilcox, Daniel Keister, John Sheck, Jneen Sparks, Jarrett Mutchner, A.C. Deem, and Harrod Mills part of the NW¼ of section 12 commencing at a post on the south line of said ½ section, 30 chains from the SW corner. (Deed Book A-2-334)

D.W. Mote, who taught at this school in 1873/74 and 1874/75, indicates in his recollections that the 1874/75 school year was in the "new brick schoolhouse". This brick building was on Stingley Road, probably where the old Baker-Nashville Road intersected Stingley.

A school souvenir for Sassafras for the years around 1900-02 has these students: Eco Teaford, Cora Wilcox, Addah Grooms, May Jefferis, Zoe Wenrick, Bessie Grooms, Grace Jefferis, May Norris, Delpha Swadner, Costa Sinks, Earl Wilcox, Leo Norris, Deo Teaford, Harry Wilcox, Johnny Norris, Carey Grooms, Ivan Norris, Harry Swadner, Layman Wilcox.

Today only part of the old water pump pipe remains to show the school's location.

School #2 White or Fairview

There may have been as many as five locations for schools in this district. These early locations still leave some questions unanswered.

The second school house in the township, a log cabin built in 1822, was in this district, and was possibly used as a district schoolhouse in the southwest corner of section 13.

Sept. 20, 1869, Solomon and Harriet Bollinger sold to the German Board of Education, Christopher Armacost, Daniel Wilcox, James Wilcox, John C. Ware, Henry J. Starbuck, and John Aukerman, a part of the NE¼ of NW¼ of section 24, commencing 22 rods 7 links east of the NE corner of NW¼ of NW¼. (Deed book Vol. 54-117)

By 1875, School #2 was located at the center of section 13

on Route 36. This building may have been a log house known as the White School. There were several Keener kids who went to this school, and it is thought this may also have been the "Keener School" referred to in the township treasurer's records for August 30, 1888, when J.C. Triester was paid $4.00 for a watering trough at Keener schoolhouse.

"Dad and Mom had as their school mates in the Little White schoolhouse (that burned across from the Hi Hunt place) Hattie Wagner and Harry Thomas, who were to become the parents of Lowell Thomas. The teacher was 'Old Davy Thomas', Lowell's grandfather." (Tom K. Wenrick 1969, letter)

Ora Brodrick was the teacher there when the school burned down around 1894. To finish school they went to school in a log cabin on Clark Station Road while a brick school was built on the corner of Clark's Station Road and 36. It stood where Haskins lived.

The log house was on the present Ralph Hoblit farm across from Wenrick's lane, on what was then either Denlinger's or Metzcar's farm. The new schoolhouse became known as Fairview.

Diana Wenrick Landesman has excerpted information on the school from writings of Thomas Keener Wenrick dated January 1969.

"Dad bought the George Mace farm east of Palestine and we moved there in the spring of 1904. Marvin Jefferis was teaching in the red schoolhouse (Fairview) at the corner (NE corner (NE corner of intersection). He invited the folks to send me to school during the remaining weeks of the term, so I started in and had my first lessons from a wall chart. Marvin rode a bicycle from his home in the brick house this side of Stingley Road (opposite my birthplace), and at the end of the day he frequently brought me home on the handlebars of his bike. I liked that and liked school.

"My sister Zoe attended high school at Palestine two years (that was all they offered) with Chas. A. Wilt as teacher. Then at age 18 (about 1908) she passed a county examination for a teacher's certificate. She taught one year at the Halderman School (north of Baker Store), two years at Baker Store School, and one year at Fairview School. She drove our horse, Old Jinks, to a buggy the first year, tied him in the school woodshed for shelter, and every day I stuffed hay and corn in a sack for his feed. For this I was paid 5¢ a day. Her own pay ranged from $85-110 a month for an eight-month term. At Christmas time all teachers were expected to treat their pupils, so the living room at home was the scene of a big array of candy, nuts, and oranges, which were apportioned out in sacks and made ready for the day of the Christmas Program. Usually many parents and friends came to the school for this event, to be entertained and to share in the teacher's treat.

"During the winter of 1910-11 I was encouraged to study at home for the so-called Patterson Examination. This, under the Patterson Law, might qualify one to enter any high school in the state, with tuition paid by the local district. I took the tests and passed in all subjects. The next year, Zoe taught in the home school (Fairview) and as I was considered young to enter high school, I was sent to her. As in all one-room schools, the recitations were brief. The classes were small, however, permitting quite a lot of individual attention from the teacher. The factors of repetition and frequent review, as well as a preview of more advanced work, were enhanced by the fact that all grade levels were in the same room and all recitations were audible to all pupils in the room. For those interested enough to give attention, these privileges made learning easier. Extra-curricular activities were limited to Friday P.M. 'ciphering' and holiday-oriented 'literary' programs, but everybody participated, and that has not been possible in the larger schools.

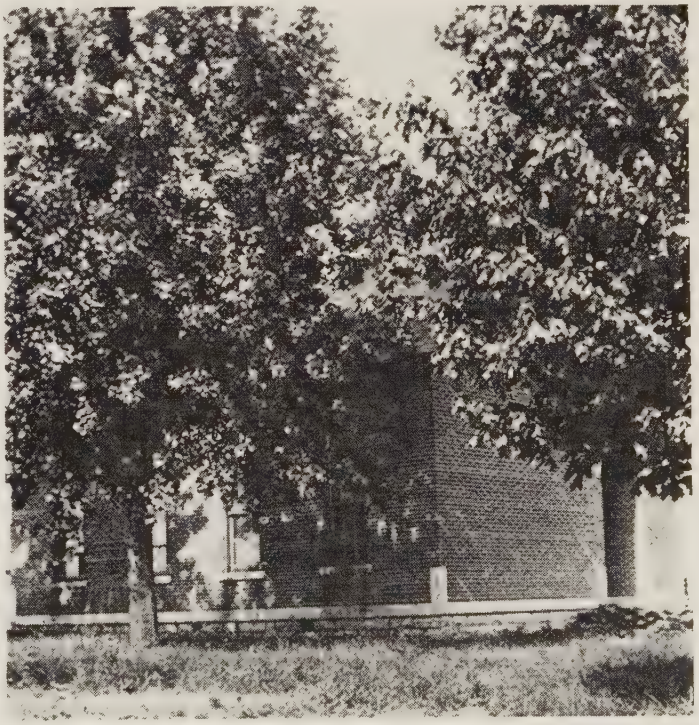
"Morning and afternoon recess and the long noon hour were given to spontaneous games, often without much teacher supervision. Ball was played as a rotating scrub game in which all took turns in playing all positions, and any surplus kids were fielders. For several years we never saw a covered baseball, but played with homemade yarn balls furnished by the pupils. Other games included Dare Base, Andy Over, Name-up, Crack the Whip, Snowballing, Fox-and-Goose, 'Rassling', and once in a while an unexpected fight.

"We had no well for a long time, carrying our drinking water in a wooden bucket swung on a stick between two pupils, from the well next door. It was considered a privilege to be allowed to go after a bucket of water. A common tin drinking cup served all.

"Instead of scrap paper, we used a slate, a small edition of blackboard, which could be erased merely by spitting on it and wiping it with a 'slate-rag' (a damp sponge was a status symbol). Slates could a little noisy, but they were essential equipment in those days.

"One large stove was expected to heat the whole room. Here at Fairview and some other schools we had eventually a jacketed stove, which circulated the air somewhat like a hot-air furnace. Even then, we often crowded around the stove on a cold morning or when coming in half frozen from recess. The teacher usually did her own janitor work unless able to hire one of the older boys to do it.

"On the last day of school there was usually a program, with visitors, and sometimes teachers gave out prizes or



Fairview School

Old Sassafras School around 1870. The x marks Eva Cox - Thurman House's grandmother.

Sassafras College school in 1882: 2 Elmer Jeffries, 4 Alvin Harter, 5 Wm. Jeffries, 6 James Warner, 7 Jett Jefferies, 8 Dora Mills, 9 Etta Fogel, 10 Bessie Hamilton, 11 Minnie Hamilton, 12 Etta Armstrong, 13 Homer Jeffries, 14 Hartley Arnold, 15 Lonnie Fogle, 16 Frank Stingley, 17 Forest Mills, 18 Florence Jeffries, 19 Russel Stingley, 20 Renine Fogle, 21 Marvey Jeffries, 22 Edward Jeffries, 23 Mary Eniex, and 24 Minnie Eniex. The teacher was John McPherson.

Sassafras School about 1902. Marvin Jefferis teacher.

School #2 - Ora Brodrick teacher. Back row left to right: Minnie Stump, Bessie Metcgar, Pearl Cook, Verna Cook, Bessie Brumbaugh, Hettie Wenrick, Ora Brodrick (teacher), Orla Metcgar, Dorlie Metcgar, Vernon Brumbaugh, Ray Kerst, Dave Cook, Noah Wenrick, and Francis Hawkins. Front row: Mabel Metcgar, Lesta Cook, Ethel Rolf, Lottie Metcgar, Clydie Lutz, May Lippie, Artie Wenrick, Mollie Cook, Mary Mikesell, Eco Mikesell, Herman Eakins, Geo. Kester, Clarence Kester, Orvel Rolf, Harry Holtzappel, Johnny Hawkins, and Frank Eakins.

souvenirs. Report Cards of course were handed out, with the good or bad news." Thomas Keener Wenrick)

Teachers at #2 have included 1899/1900 L.C. Aukerman, 1900/01 James Martin, 1902-04 Charles Perry, 1904/05 Marvin Jefferis, 1908/09 Mae Lippy, Elsie Baker, 1910/11 Hazel Ross, Bessie Hittle, 1912/13 Zoe Wenrick, 1913/14 Eunice Wilcox, 1916/17 Carl E. Jefferis.

I.M. Ross, W.R. Mikesell, C.W. Kester, S.F. Metzcar, and Milton Keener were the school board in 1898. At the April meeting the board discussed sodding the school yard and decided C.W. Kester and S.F. Metzcar would harrow soil, put in good order for seeding, and sow down timothy.

July, 1904, the board hired Mister Jeffers to teach the coming year for eight month term. Up to this time, the school term had been seven months.

By 1908 the board consisted of S.R. Metzcar, J.M. Wenrick, M.W. Davis, E.M. Kerst, and E.T. Wagner. At this time the board decided to pay $45.00 per month for teacher for seven months. The teachers' duties to include cleaning school house, premises, and closets.

August 1908, bought five ton of coal from H.D. McCabe. Also purchased glass for windows and globes for lamps.

Sept. 28, 1908, the board accepted offer of Will Brown of New Madison : one Round Oak #18 $20.00 and fixtures for #16 $2.00. The board then sold their old stove for $1.00.

March 1, 1909, the board again decided to hire a teacher for eight months instead of seven. The levy for the next year was then duly discussed and decided : .003 for Tuition and .00½ Contingent. J.M. Wenrick was employed to take the enumeration.

August 2, 1909 meeting: Neave township Special district #4 presented bill for tuition of pupils of $80.79. Motion that committee be appointed to look after repairs on coal house and purchase ten ton coal.

Aug. 16, 1909, the board paid tuitition for Zoe Wenrick and Lottie Metzcar to Palestine High School of $32.00.

Sept. 6, 1909, E.T. Wagner appointed to purchase chalk, broom and tin cups.

March 21, 1910, president asked clerk to notify Special District #1 of the presence of four pupils from said district in District No. 2.

Nov. 24, 1911, board bought stove for $55.00.

Aug. 5, 1912, M.W. Davis was appointed to look after repairing the plaster in the school house.

June 2, 1913, moved to purchase one set of maps consisting of 8 maps in one, peerless steel case and one state map in case from Western Publishing House.

Jan. 19, 1914, moved that J.N. Garrison act as truent officer.

Aug. 3, 1914, moved to buy a new bowl for stove. The bowl was purchased from Duffey Hardware for $16.78.

July 6, 1915, paid Palestine school district $27.00 for tuition for Thomas Wenrick and Georgia Davis and also $1.98 for Commencement.

Sept. 7, 1915, moved by I.M. Ross and seconded by Walter Tejan to accept uniform text books as directed by county superintendant.

June 8, 1916, moved to build a fence around the school yard. Also moved that Ira Baker and W.M. Harter see after getting a well drilled at school house.

Aug. 3, 1916, moved to have the fence taken down from around the school yard.

Aug. 10, 1916, paid Joseph Touts $171.05 for drilling well.

Jan. 2, 1917, discussion on Duffey Hardware bill for stove repair.

June 5, 1917, moved to hire Lucille Manuel to teach for 1917/18 term. Last meeting recorded in this book May 7, 1918.

Bunker Hill School around 1916. Teacher Earl Clemens. Back row r to l: Earl Clemens, Iva Burden, Della Epps, Ken Clemens, Chalmer Okey, Elsworth McCown, Elsworth Scott, Oscar Paxton. Middle Row r to l: Mae Lamb, Lattie Burden, Virgie Burden, Mary Epps, Murvel Carpenter. Front row r to l: Geneva McCown, Almena McCown, Frances Epps, Gladys Carpenter, Lloyd Epps, Charlie Carpenter, Percy McCown.

School #3 Bunker Hill

This school was located in the SW quarter of section 4 on Stingley Road. One hundred and one year-old Margaret McCown attended Bunker Hill and recalled teachers George Stokes, Moon from Dayton, George and Al Holland, Mae Jones of Muncie. Chalmer Okey attended the one-room brick with wood stove under teachers Mr. Jones, Mrs. Hawkins, Earl Clemens, woman from Richmond, Mrs. Foster, Ruby Alexander from Richmond.

Chalmer recalls that when he went there, there were only 10 or 12 kids altogether. It was a pretty rough school, and Chalmer remembers when Oscar Paxton was told by Mrs. Hawkins to do something and he didn't. She repeatedly asked him and he still didn't do it. He said he'd go down the road and get his grandma - Mrs. Hawkins yanked him by the neck, buttons flew, and she stood him out in the yard for Grandma to see. Chalmer felt Mrs. Hawkins was the only teacher who could handle the kids there. The students used to throw paper wads at the other teachers.

Bunker Hill School picture includes Guy, Tom, Oral Lowdenslager and Burden twins.

About 1917 was the last year for Bunker Hill, as the school was down to 7 or 8 kids then, and Chalmer Okey's 1918 term was at Longtown school under Ora Chavis and Walter Chavis. Ora got sick and Walter finished Ora's term.

Chalmer recalls he would wind up twine to make a ball and the boys and girls would use a stick for a bat to play ball at Bunker Hill.

Chalmer was quite a fiddle player, and he and a teacher, who played piano, would play in evenings for school programs at #12 Joint District School and Longtown School. Later Chalmer and guitar player Ray Holland played for Saturday night drawings at Nashville Store. Martha Crawford also recalls playing at the Nashville store. Possibly when Chester Harter or Will Jefferis had store about 1920.

Norman Cloyd razed the school building around 1920.

Other teachers were: Mary Jones, Walter Chevis, Althea Goins, Alen Goens, Joseph Cousins.

A 1907 school souvenir of the #3 school in possession of Gladys (Carpenter) Collins, lists Mary E. Jones as the teacher and the following students: Tracie Burden, Lucinda Burden, Trottie Burden, Vida Burden, Rexford Burden, Cornelia Clemens, Thelma Clemens, Herschel Clemens, Lonnie Clemens, Albert Clemens, Kenneth Clemens, Carl Collins, Alva Collins, Mary Carpenter, Emma Carpenter,

Longtown School 1897 - Azinar Goens in beard

Longtown School 1903
The 1903 picture loaned by Lawrence Goens show students identified left to right top row: Ray Holland, Frank Burden, Walter Bass, Alexander, Orville Goens, Mary Burden, Rena Epps, Mollie Carpenter, Esther Scott, Chels Mason teacher, Cornelia Clemens Lewis, Zebedee Bass trustee. Front row: Joe Bass, Ollie Archie, Lawrence Goens, Chester Goens, Charlie Clemens, Earl Clemens, Finch Clemens, Neil Burden, Gussie Clemens, Anna Mae Clemens Bass, Nancy Clemens, Nellie Bass Clemens, Scott. Two in front thought to be Archies.

Lydia Carpenter, Harvey Carpenter, Hazel Carpenter, Everett Carpenter, Ethern Carpenter, Cecil Carpenter, Jessie Dolby, Merle Epps, Gracie Epps, James Epps, Elmer Fackson, Beatrice Fackson, Wiatt Goens, Elmer Hill, Marie Herrington, Meda Herrington, Raymond McCown, Anna McCown, Wava McCown, Hattie McCown, Johney Paxton, Essie Paxton, Tollie Reed, Ada Scott, Anna Smith, Viola Smith, George Smith, Thomas Smith, Dottie Bass.

School #4 Longtown School

As indicated in the "Other Pioneer Schools" section, a school in this district probably began in the 1820's. The first record for a district school is found in the County Deed records when on Feb. 7, 1854, Jesse and Mary Ann Okey sold land beginning at the NE corner of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼ of section 7 to the German township Board of Education. (Deed book K-2-519). This location is shown on the 1857 plat. Members of the Board at that time were Darlington Jeffres, David Putman, Jacob F. Weaver, Manlius Willcox, James E.C. Woodmansee, Jarrett Mutchner, James McCown, Henry Goen, Andrew J. Sparks, John Sherrick, James Willcox, and John Morris.

The 1875 plat shows School #4 in the NE corner of the Stingley and Hollansburg-Tampico intersection. By 1888 the school is located in the SW corner of the intersection. This brick school house is still standing, and now used as a community center. The area residents have built an addition to

Longtown School

the building and kept it up.

After Schools #3 and #5 in German township, and #12 in Washington township ceased, students from these schools attended Longtown School. Longtown School continued until 1952 when the enrollment had dropped to 13 students, so the school was forced to merge with Palestine.

Romani Kennedy was a teacher at Longtown. Maze Clemens recounts the strictness of Walter Chevis from Bellefontaine who taught him there. The students were not allowed to look around at all, and if visitors came, the students would not know unless they had come to the front of the school and turned around to return to their seats.

To dismiss the students, Mr. Chevis would assign two monitors to gather everyone's wraps and hand them out, and two monitors to pass out the lunch pails. Mr. Chevis would then count to four. On one the students would stand; two, they would reach down and pull up their seats; three, they would turn around; and four, they marched out of the school.

The clerk's record book for school district #4 loaned by

Longtown School 1918 Walter Chevis teacher Front row l to r: Gratinc Carpenter, Clara Archey Garcie Archey, Paulin Goens, Mildred Holland Belva Clemens, Glenr Clemens, Cliff Burden Kenneth Goens, Maz Clemens, Leonard Holland Carl Wade. Rear l to r Mylyda Clemens, Mar Green, Catherine Goens Alvie Archey, Thelm Carpenter, Margare Clemens, Alvie Goens Gladys Clemens, Mari Goens, Sylvia Green, Lur Goens, Bernice Archey Dora Goens, Cliff Clemens Coy Clemens, Lloyd Ar chey (in door).

Longtown Schoolbus driver Woodie Swaney

Maze Clemens has some financial records for the years 1912, and 1913.

Anna M. Clemens was the teacher 1912-1913, and received $40/month.

Nelle F. Epps taught 1913/14

Emma Goodall was janitor these years at $2/mo

Tuition for Clifford Epps was $24 May 19, 1912 tuition for Charles Clemens $27.

E.H. McCown was paid $5.00 for hauling children to school, March 28, 1914.

Lawrence Goens remembers fondly the Friday afternoon ciphering. Especially when Ray Holland and Chester Goens beat Bryson & Grif Eidson at a match at Sassafras School. He remembers playing ball with a ball made from rags and strings. And teachers O.B. Chavis, Mr. Bailey, Chels Mason.

From the minute books of the board of education for June 1931 to 1952, we identify the following teachers at Longtown School: T. Althea Goings 1931/32, Leonard L. Holland 1931/32, T. Althea Goings 1932 to 1937, Margaret Burnette 1937-1940, Callie E. Burnette 1940-1945, Margaret Terry 1945/46, J.G. Epps janitor 1945/46, Romania Kennedy 1946-1952.

1931, the school board was B.W. Bass, J.G. Epps, J.W. Clemens, Irma Goens, and Clifford A. Epps. In 1931, the board paid $528 tuition for six pupils to the Palestine High School.

In 1931 they bought 8 ton of coal from Bryan W. Noggle of New Madison, and sold 511 pounds coal to the trustees of W.M. Church. They decided to pay Homer Smith $3 per day as hack driver provided he secures a school bus.

May 27, 1932, the board accepted bids to clean the house, which includes room whitewashed, two coats (100 lb.), stove cleaned and polished, woodwork painted one coat (1 gal. white), painting of windows inside and out, oiling of floor (1 quart).

July 29, 1932, board moves to continue over the 3 mill levy.

June 5, 1933, sets price at $75 a month for school year 33/34, and hires their teacher with the understanding that if the finance gives out the board has the right to close school if necessary.

July 1933, board consulted with teacher Mrs. T. Althea Goings as to teaching without pay for at least two months until the board gets their February taxes. The teacher agrees to teach if the finance is sure. Also Mr. Edgar Clemens hack driver agrees to haul the pupils until the board gets their February taxes.

During the depression years the school board had to borrow some money.

July 29, 1940, board moved to buy new G.M.C. model A.C.S. - 304 with 6.50 x 20 tires and one Bender fully equipped 18 ft. body.

September 27, 1940, decided to build garage for bus. Hired James Bass to build. Woodrow Swaney drove the bus.

October 25, 1940, first REA payment noted. Raymond Hollinger was paid for gravel for hack garage.

The State Examiner closes the minute book March 31, 1955.

Tampico Schoolhouse

School #5 Tampico School

This school also had at least two sites. The first recorded evidence of a school in this area, aside from the district directors named in 1840, was the plat of Tampico recorded 1850 with the Recorder's office. Lot #33 was dedicated for common school purposes for use by the school district as a site for a school house.

Feb. 17, 1855, James E.C. and Elizabeth Woodmansee sold this lot to Adam C. Deem representing the German township Board of Education. (Deed book D-2-562). It is unknown if, indeed, a school building was erected on this lot, but in 1857, a school house is indicated just west of Tampico on the north side of 36.

The 1875 plat shows the school house to be located on the east side of Tampico Road and just north of the intersection with Stack Road - its present location.

Tampico students started to Longtown school before the #3 students. Carl Wade lived in Tampico, which was exactly two miles from Longtown School. He was the only student who had to be hauled to school, as anyone living farther than two miles from school had to be taken to school.

Gloria (Rickman) Hickman informs us that Merle Epps taught here, as also did Gloria's great-grandmother Adaline Oakey Pettiford. Adaline taught there about 100 years ago and met her husband at a spelling bee there.

A 1909 school souvenir for the Tampico School indicates that Golda L. Smythe was the teacher there with the following students: Coy Clemens, Gladys Clemens, Mattie Clemens, Charley Goens, Nellie Epps, Ila McCown, Annice Mason, Audley Mason, William Grant, Dewey Burden, Evert McCown, Charley Archey, Bernice Archey, Lou Ethel Archey, Haywood Sweney, Clestie Clemens, Cliften Clemens, Lucy Goens, Clifford Epps, James McCown, Tafel McCown, Irma Mason, Goldie Grant, Morlein Grant, Ada Smith, Raymond McCown, Loyd Archey, Tracey Archey, Cecil Goens, and Russel Sweney.

The brick still stands at Jesse Hickman's. The wooden front gable and milled lumber in the ceiling joists on the west side of the building may indicate an earlier fire over where the pot-bellied stove stood between the two front doors. A couple of the older ceiling joists are charred. The inside walls were plastered, and at the front wall, behind the teacher's desk, a four foot strip was painted black along the entire front, and framed with wood molding to serve as the blackboard.

Red Martin with Dobson sign that hung on old school.

Dobson School

School #6 Dobson School, Cowboy District

Daniel and Nancy Thompson sold to the directors of #6 in German, Charles W. Thomas, Isiah Brodrich, and Daniel Thompson, the SW ¼ of section 29, beginning at a stake 37 rods east from the SW corner of section 29, June 30, 1839. (Deed book L-1-85).

From the township clerk's records: "building school house for district #6, $179.16, Jan. 10, 1840. A Debter by cash drawn from the County treasury."

Red Martin has a round sign for Dobson giving the brick building date as 1873.

Earl Cloyd attended Dobson in the second grade, 1916/17, and recalls the deep snow that winter as high as the rail fence. He got an earache, so his teacher Lela Chenoweth, heated a brick on the stove, wrapped it, and let him lay his head on the warm, wrapped brick on his desk.

Thurmon House recalls when the pump played out, they went to Harry Hoke's (where Doc Brinley lives now) for drinking water.

An article was written in the "Greenville Advocate" a number of years ago telling of Red and Corda Martin living in the schoolhouse, and interviewing Fern Williams on her experience with the school. "Mrs. Williams recalled how the one-room, country school was heated by a wood stove and how all the students would huddle around it. Teachers were their own janitors according to the octogenarian. She went on to say that there were no extra-curricular activities, but that the students enjoyed entertainment such as plays, box socials and visiting other schools on Friday afternoons. She particularly remembers the Sauerkraut school two miles away. 'We must have walked back and forth, because I can't remember of any transportation' continued Mrs.

Dobson School about 1908 - kneeling l to r: ? , Guy Lowdenslager, Ernest Chenoweth, Jess Chenoweth, Garver Ross, Jim Owens, Norman Ross, Oral Lowdenslager, Letha Hoke. 2nd row l to r: Letha Ketring, Oral Owens, Edna Tillson, Norma Chenoweth, Ara Albright, Aaron Downing, Wayne Ross, Reva Chenoweth, Ruby Downing, Ruth Tillson. 3rd row l to r: Harry Downing, Jack Downing, Charles H., Vanda Wampler, Lela Chenoweth, Retha Ross, Fern Albright, Guy Spencer, Frank Chenoweth.

#7 School - First Row: Elsie Koons, Bill Allread, Delsie Poling, Roll Manuel, Thora Manuel, Bob Manuel, Lucille French, Allread, Poling. Second Row - Lucille Manuel, Willie Teaford, Poling, William Allread, Zelpha Clay, Lloyd Poling, Mabel Stapleton Reck, Bill Poling, Edna Koontz, Nettie Miller Koons teacher. Third Row: Russell Farmer, Florence Ketring, Mosier, Cecil Clay, Lola Groendyke, Arno Lowdenslager, Adavier Wilcox, Blanche Manuel Stephens, Chester Cloyd. Fourth Row: Walter Groendyke, Charlie Hiatt, Farmer, Emma Snell, Orville Groendye, Opal Cloyd, Omer Ketring, Mary Farmer, Nelson Cloyd, Ruby Stapleton.

Williams. 'All the children drank out of the same drinking cup at the well' she reminisced. 'We were a pretty healthy bunch, I guess.'

"Parents occasionally visited the country school, which no longer features a pump house and wood shed. One teacher taught all eight grades during a school year."

Some of Mrs. Williams teacher's were: Lela (Downing) Chenoweth, Irvin Davis, Ethel Williams, and Grace (Irelan) Whiteman. The classroom consisted of approximately 25 to 30 students per year.

Vaughn Chenoweth has a 1906 school souvenir book listing Mrs. Lelia D. Chenoweth as teacher and E.R. Ross as school officer. 9th grade - Fanny Slorp, Audrey Downing, Harry Downing; 8th grade - Retha Ross, Glen Ross, Pharon Mikesell, Bertha Chenoweth, Fern Albright, Ora Black; 7th grade - Stanley Downing, Charley Chenoweth; 5th grade -Ruby Downing, Norma Chenoweth, Vincent Armacost, Ethel Skinner; 4th grade - Milton Alexander, Frank Chenoweth, Wayne Ross, Manolia Brown; 2nd grade - Ara Albright, Aaron Downing; 1st grade - W.A. Downing, Kenneth Mikesell, Jessie Chenoweth, Norman Brown.

Dobson consolidated with Hollansburg about 1919.

School #7

School #7 was located in the center of section 22 on the south side of Hollansburg-Palestine Road.

Teachers included: Marshall Adelbert Brown 1883, O.E. Aukerman 1898, G.E. Hamilton, Charles Koons 1902, Nettie (Miller) Koons about 1908, Mary Spencer, Omar Dill 1911 and 1912.

When Nettie Miller taught here, Omar Dill went to high school at Palestine. Omar would drive Nettie in horse and carriage, then go to school. He would pick her up when he got out of school.

Homer Ross thought it was about 1917 when #7 consolidated with Palestine.

Omar Dill's class card 1898-1899 records: Board of education - Harvey Hill, Eli Teaford, Norman Teaford. Teacher -O.E. Aukerman. Pearl Sleetch, Versa Dill, Gracie Lamb, Lottie Dill, Ruby Stapleton, Martha Haines, Lottie Teaford, Beal Teaford, Mabel Teaford, Cora Bidwell, Grace Stapleton, Grace Teaford, Pearl Koontz, Bulo Koons, Cora Stapleton, Ota Aukerman, Omar Dill, Willie Dill, Allie Koons, Russel Richard, Orval Groendyke, Ralph Spencer, Claude Aukerman, Basil Teaford, Earl Teaford, Delbert Teaford, Roscoe Koons, Barney Koons.

From another class card, no date: Board of Educ. - Norman Teaford, Oscar Biddle, Isaac Dill. Teacher G.E. Hamilton. Barney Koons, Ralph Brown, Roscoe Koons, Will Ketring, Claude Aukerman, Basil Ketring, John Sincebaugh, Omar Dill, Allie Koons, Willie Dill, Omar Ketring, Kenneth Stapleton, Hallie Ketring, Grace Teaford, Beulah Koons, Grace Stapleton, Blanche Mosier, Martha Haynes, Versa Dill, Pearl Gleeth, Emily Stapleton, Ada Wilcox, Gracie Lamb, Chalmer Mosier.

School #8, Clarks Station, Cheese Town School

Jan. 7, 1856, Nathaniel and Margaret Ross sold to the German township Board of Education, James Clark, Wm. C. Deem, Harod Mills, Jacob F. Wear, Charles Thomas, Elias B. Godfrey, and A.C. Deem, part of the south half of the SW¼ of section 25 commencing on the south line of said tract at the SE corner of cleared land near the center of said line. The 1857 plat, however, locates a schoolhouse on the south line and the NW¼. (Deed book C-2-475)

May 17, 1872, William and Susannah Wade sold a half acre of land in the NW corner of section 36 to the German Board of Education. (Deed book Vol. 61-12)

School board records indicate the following teachers: 1904-07 Andrew A. Petry, 1907/08 Lucy Riegle, 1908/09 Harley W. Noggle, 1909/10 Andrew A. Petry, 1910/11

School #7 1902. Charles Koons teacher.

Pearl Thomas, 1911/12 Ward Trissel, 1912/13 H.C. Creager, 1913/14 Edna Ebberts, 1914-16 Marie Hiatt, 1916/17 Ruby Wilt Ross, 1917/18 Isla Crawford, 1918-20 Mary Nyswonger, 1920-23 Andrew A. Petry, 1923/24 Mary V. Wilt, 1924-26 Neva Troutman.

The board in 1905 composed of Geo. Mann, Wm. Wilt, J.L. Clark, E.E. Noggle, and E.M. Royer. In the fall of 1905, the board hired J.W. Lynch to "repair windows, roof, desks, blackboard, door, water closets, plastering and wall outside of house two coats, whitewash and clean house, blackening stove, get new zinc for stove, haul twenty yards of gravel and pay for same, also pay for all material needed to do above work for the sum of thirty three and 50/100 dollars."

James Young was appointed truant officer that year, and A.A. Petry was paid $2.10 for brooms, chalk, bucket, tin cups, etc.

In 1907 the board bought a new school bell for the tower of the one room brick building.

The following texts were approved in 1910: McGuffey's Eclectic Spelling book, McGuffey's Readers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, literature, etc., Ray's Arithmetic, Harvey's Grammar, McMaster's Histories, Overton's Physiology, Eclectic Complete Geography, and First Principal of Agriculture.

Leo Rush was paid $1.57 for mending pump in November of 1910.

The board approved paying $24.40 tuition to #4 Harrison township school for Russel and Marie Brown in 1906, and also paid $15.80 to New Madison school for Lodenia McFarland's tuition.

In 1912, the board paid tuition to Palestine for Roscoe Lynch, Charles Bollinger, Orville and Thelma Teaford. They paid New Madison tuition for Ruby Wilt. June 1913, they paid tuition to #10 special district for Guy and James Allread.

Bert Ketring was traunt officer in 1919.

Orla and Mary (Royer) Riegle recall fondly the brick school. Orla says they played ball once in awhile with New

Clark's Station School 1924: Standing l to r: Edith Hittle, Mary Royer Riegle, Naomi McKee, Mable Stump, Tom Royer, Neva Troutman teacher, Roy Hittle, Ira Hittle, Lowell Odie, Irvin Stump, Elmer Lipscomb. Kneeling l to r: Evelyn Janes, Regina Troutman, Martha Stump, Marvin Odie, Eugene Krenley, Mary Katherine McKee.

Kokomo School: front row l to r: ? , Glen Lane, Mae Lane, Ollie Jefferis, Dess Jefferis, Charlie Lane, Orlando Jefferis, Grace Heck, Grace Judy. Second row l to r: Rose Clay, Homer Jefferis, Ed Jefferis, Pearl Jefferis, Roscoe Lane, Herschel Jefferis, Renny Heck, Stella Clay, Geo. Hamilton.

Kokomo School: Back Row l to r: Leroy Stephen, Inez Cole, Orville Jefferis, Harry Craeger teacher, Willard Parent, Artie James, Merle Mosier, Clara James. Second Row l to r: ? , Gladys Jefferis, Herman Throp. Third Row: Don Cole, Mary Throp, Carl Cole, Keith Stephens, Cappie Heck, Guy Phillippi, Throp, Mildred Hiatt, Throp, Lucille Parent. Front Row: Earl Jefferis, Alma Stephens, Jeff Cole, ? .

Madison. They would have ciphering and spelling matches Friday afternoons after the last recess.

June 7, 1926, the board was ordered by Chas. A. Wilt to pay over to New Madison Consolidated Schools, and Palestine Village School District the balance of all funds. The board, Loren Janes, Elmer Kuhnle, Irvin Riegle, Leo Rush, Tom Troutman, Elmer Kuhnle, voted to pay over to New Madison 31.22% or $134.75, and to Palestine 68.78% or $296.88.

The students in the district went to either New Madison or Palestine. The school and property were auctioned, and Bert Hiatt bought the school land.

School #9 Kokomo

William and Charlotte Heck sold to the German township Board of Education, Jacob Wear, Herod Mills, Wm. C. Deem and Daniel Friar, Jan. 18, 1856, part of the SW ¼ of section 3 commencing at a stake on the east side of the creek where the south line of said section crosses, then going east 14 rods, west of north 11½ rods to creek, then up creek 14 rods to beginning. (Deed book D-2-469)

By 1888 the school was located south of Stingley Road.

Teacher at Kokomo included: Harley Noggle 1907, Mae Lane Teaford 1908, Omar Dill, Charley Wilt, Harry Craiger 1910, Carl Jefferis 1912.

Cappy Heck Warvel recalls one teacher used to let the kids out in winter when a small pond in Jefferis' field was frozen and the kids would "skate" with their shoes. The skating ceased after one student fell and hurt herself. Carl Jefferis had his class at the Grange while building the new school house.

Cappy recalls one teacher would say if the kids were good, then Friday afternoon, instead of studying, they would cipher or spell. The students would divide into sides and sat on benches at the front of the school. A student would read from a reader until a mistake was made, then a student from the "other side" would read. Cappy recalls Guy Phillipi would read very slowly in order not to err.

"Games they played outside were "hany over the school house", where they divided into sides, one side tossing a ball over the school house roof, then if a person on the other side caught the ball would run around the building and throw at other kids. Also fox and goose in winter snow, darebase, and shinny which was played with a tin can and a hole in the ground. Two sides, one trying to hit the can in the hole with sticks, the other side defending.

Mrs. Leah (Jefferis) Huston remembers 'spell downs' where the students could advance to the head of the line by correct spelling. At the conclusion of this competition, the winner won a pencil. Mrs. Huston feels there were several advantages of the one-room school - one being a student could listen to the older students recite. Mrs. Huston advanced some grades at Kokomo by learning from the older students.

The school board minutes for 1911 show board members C.A. Homan, W.A. Jefferis, B.F. Cole, A.J. Newton, B. Throp, H.L. Throp. C. Coble was appointed truant officer in 1911. Oct. 3, 1911, the board allowed a bill from J.C. Ross for driving one well 24 ft. 9 inches deep at $1 per foot, pump included $24.75. Myrtle Cole was allowed money for supplies as follows: order book 2.25, register .75, minute book .50, water bucket .25.

Nov. 6, 1911, a committee was appointed to purchase window blinds, window lights, and lamp globes. The board voted to purchase two cord of wood to be delivered in the wood house.

B.T. Cole was appointed to confer with county and state officials in regard to extension of time of building a new school house owing to unsettled conditions of school affairs in township. Feb. 5, 1912, C.A. Homan, C.T. Jefferis, and H.L. Throp to investigate plans and estimates of a new school building.

March 4, 1912, communication for State Fire Marshal in regard to extension of time of new building received and read.

Committee given full power to contract with an architect for plans and specifications on new school house.

April 3, 1912, voted to employ Geo. Barkman and Arthur Hoener as architects for plans and specifications for new school house. Moved to issue bonds to the amount of $4000 for erection of school house.

April 26, 1912, W.A. Jefferis presented a petition from patrons of district for the purpose of changing location of school house from present site to ½ mile east.

May 18, 1912, accepted Farmers National Bank of Greenville bid for all bonds.

June 7, 1912, accepted bid to build school house from Pough and Westfall. Board went to school grounds to establish grade lines and location of building. The northeast corner of the building to be 40 ft. west of east fence and 7 ft. north of old building. The building to be 32 x 36 with hip roof.

June 18, 1912, move to hire Carl Jefferis for following year. Decided to move wood house to a convenient place on school lot and repair same for stable. Bill of $15 presented by Geo. Groshaus, proprietor of "Tribune" for legal publication of Bond Sale and Contractor Notice.

July 9, 1912, accepted bid of D.E. Craig and Son to furnish one Peck and Williamson hot air furnace no. 67 for sum of $165.

July 19, 1912, Pugh and Westfall presented bill: old material, lumber, brick, stone, labor $250, 87 yds. concrete $453, cellar excavating $145.

Aug. 13, 1912, moved to buy ten no. 2 desks, 10 no. 3 desks, 10 no. 4 desks, 10 no. 5 desks, two resitation seats 8 ft. long, 1 teachers chair no. 165, 1 teachers desk no. 165. German Township Board presented a bill of $4.30 as our quota of Patterson commencement.

Sept. 3, 1912, C.T. Jefferis to confer with German Grange in regard to renting lower room of hall for school purposes and if can not rent hall to see if can rent a tent and get a place to set tent on.

Sept. 10, 1912, can get hall for 50¢ per day. Moved to rent grange hall to hold school till school building is completed. School to commence Monday, Sept. 16, 1912.

July 1, 1913, hired Jesse James Rush at $2.50/day with janitor fees included.

June 1, 1914, Omar Dill employed to teach coming term at $50/month.

July 6, 1914, moved to pay Fairview Christian Church $1.50 for use of church on night of commencement.

June 5, 1916, Luveria Stover selected to be teacher.

John Creagor appointed truant officer in September of 1916.

Luveria Stover hired to teach for the 1917/18 term.

School #10 Sourkraut

John and Susan Warner sold ¼ acre in the SW corner of NE¼ of NW¼ of section 34 to school district #10 April 13, 1839. (Deed book I-1-475)

Myrtle Hollinger relates that her father, John B. Miller, told her of a small building south of the cemetery which was used for Sunday School and school by her father and his brothers. When John started to school, he could only speak German. This building was moved south of Hollansburg on the Richmond Road where it was added to and is now a residence. Richards used to live there.

By 1875, the school building was at the corner of Weavers Station Road and Harrison Road. This brick school building was razed by Willie Hollinger in the early 1920's.

Early teachers included Omar Broderick and Grover Miller.

Sourkraut School - Back row: Ernest Mikesell, Crystal Gibbs, Alice Ross, Lela Groff teacher, Louvera Miller Beatty, Bertha Ginger, Ruth Smelker, Ralph Miller, Forest Ginger. Second Row -Galen Ginger, Alice Rife, ? Creager, Ruth Miller McClelland, Pauline Stocker, Edith Miller, Bert Rush, Baker Royer, Henry Miller, Roy Miller, Martha Troutwine. Front Row - Mary Printz, Henrietta Brown, Arthur Gibbs, Bryant Gibbs, ? Creager, Elmer Trutwine, ? Troutwine, Harley Petry, Glen Hiatt.

Omar Broderick is the teacher at Sourkraut when the picture below was taken. First row seated left ro right, ? , Ruby Mikesell?, Keener, Hettie or Mary Rife, Alice Rife, Florence Smelker Everts or Mary Rife, Gracie Miller, Carl Moore. Second Row, Ben Richard, Wessie Hollinger, Grover Miller, Elvy Ketring, Nola Richard, Dora Miller, Bertha Rife Hollinger, Myrtle Miller Hollinger, Willie Hollinger, Nettie Miller Koons. Third Row, Ivan Richards, Bert Mikesell, Stella Rife Petry, Nettie Mikesell Chenoweth, Andy Petry, Otis Mikesell?.

School #11 Prairie Vine

Gordon and July Ann Cloyd and Frederick and Catharine Aukerman sold to German Township Board of Education school land April 2, 1859. This land was located in west ½ of section 16 commencing at center of said section thence north 3 rod, west 8 rod, south 6 rod, east 8 rod, north 3 rod. (Deed book K-2-147)

The township treasurer's records record, "pay Gorden Cloyd $5.00 payment of school house lot in sub dist #11 Nov. 5, 1859."

By 1888, School #11 was located on Route 36, south and west of the original location.

Keith Stephens went to this school right by Mrs. Cloyd's house in 1912. Wanda Wampler Chenoweth was the teacher that year.

School #12 Glen Karn School

This school located on east edge of Glen Karn was the last formed in the township.

The two-room school was located on Chenoweth Road where Whittington lives now.

Harrison Township Schools

"The Darke County Boy", Sept. 1, 1910, page 5, informs us, "The first school house (in Harrison Township) was built in 1819, the teacher being Moses Woods."

"He was of Virginia birth, born June 26, 1793, and when a young man, as early as 1814, came out to what was then called the Western Reserve, stopping first at Cincinnati.

Hollansburg School

Then he came north to Darke county and became a resident of Harrison township. He taught the first school in that township at Yankeetown, in 1819, in a log school house, with paper windows, and for several years taught in winter and farmed in summer." (1900 *Biographies of Darke County,* p. 547)

Hollansburg School - "The first school house was built on the present site of the cemetery in 1848." (1914 *History of Darke County,* p. 563). The 1857 plat shows this to be in lot 65.

June 18, 1857, Aaron A. and Phebe Irelan sold to Harrison Township Board of Education part of the NW ¼ sec. 5, 5 ft. south of SW corner of graveyard, west with north line of graveyard 19 rods, to center of road running from Hollansburg to Palestine, SW along road 8 rods to NW corner church lots, east along alley. (Deed Book F-2, 421).

The 1875 plat locates a larger school to the west of the old cemetery and north of the church. This would be the land now used for the parsonage and partly for the cemetery.

The next school was in a two-story brick just south of Hollansburg where the Petry trailer home is now. This school was affected in 1894 with district #5, and the first high school was a two year course and called the Harrison Township High School. The lower room was divided by a partition, and the school then had three teachers.

The next brick school was built in 1897 with its first graduating class in 1898. The original bell tower of this school was torn down when addition was built onto the back of the school. The high school went to a three year course in 1902. In the 20's, a wooden frame building was used for the first and second grade and manual training. This building was bought and moved to Whitewater to be used as a shop. This building still stands in the west end of Whitewater on the north side of the road. (*History of NE Wayne County,* 1976)

Old school records show the 1910 directors to be: C.E. Fulkerson, Wm. Robertson, E.A. Mikesell, W.H. Davis, and Flatter.

June 28, 1910, the board hired Mr. Jackson of Greenville to draw plans and specifications to remodel the school for fire escapes and improvements.

Oct. 10, 1910, the board adopted the following books: High School - Colar & Daniell's First Year Latin, Allen & Greenough's Caesar - Books I - IV (Rev. Ed.), Allen & Greenough's Cicero, Bennett's Latin Grammar (Rev. Ed.), Pearson's Prose Composition - Based on Caesar, Pearson's Prose Composition - Based on Cicero, Wentworth Plane Geometry (Rev. Ed.), Wentworth's Solid Geometry (Rev. Ed.), Goodyear-Marshall's Inductive Com. Arith., Lockwood & Emerson's Composition and Rhetoric, Blaisdell's First Steps - American & British Authors, Myer's General History (Rev. Ed.), Never's a School History of England, Boynton-Tess School Civics, Culler's Text Book of Physics, Wilkonsin's Practical Agriculture, Maury-Simond's Physical Geography. Elementary Texts -Webster's Common School Dictionary, Hick's Champion Speller to replace McGuffey's, Montgomery's Leading Facts of American History (Rev. Ed.), to replace McMasters Advanced, Irish's Orthography & Orthoepy.

Feb. 4, 1913, the health officer ordered the school to get a can with faucet for drinking water.

March 16, 1914, meeting called for purpose of considering necessity of action in the small pox scare. After considerable talk a motion moved that Supt. of School require all pupils attending school for the next two weeks to show a certificate of vaccination from a physician.

The board sold bonds in 1914 to finance a heating plant for the school house.

June 1, 1915, motion that president and clerk submit proposition to District #6 German township for consolidation.

1916 - Sold bonds to finance cement sidewalk or walks on school premises.

Sept. 11, 1916, $15 to Harry Hawkins for alobastering walls in primary room and touching up spots in other parts.

June 3, 1918 - whereas in accordance with a petition of

sufficient signers, whereby it is the desire of the electors of school districts No. 6 and No. 10 of German Township, Darke Co., Ohio to consolidate their schools with that of the Hollansburg Village School District, Hollansburg, Ohio.

June 21, 1918, motion that Supt. Olga Jones submit to State Authority course of study as read to the board for first grade high school (four years). The course of study for the 1918/19 school year:

Classical Course - First Year: English (1) Lewis & Hosie, Algebra (1) Slaught & Lennes, General Science (1) Coldwell & Eikenberry, Latin (1) Collar & Daniell. Second Year: English (1) Lewis & Hosie, Plane Geometry (1) Wentworth & Smith, Ancient History (½) Praster & Ashort, Public Speaking (½) Houghton, Caesor (1) Allen & Greenough. Third Year: Literature (1) Halleck & English, Modern History (1) West, Business Arith. (½) Moore & Miner, Principals of Bookkeeping (½) Miner & Elwell, Beginning French (1) Merss. Fourth Year: Literature American (1) Halleck, Physics (1) Culler, Civics (½) Guitteau, American History (½) West, French.

Agricultural Social Course - First Year: Same as Classical except instead of Latin give Community Civics (½) Houghs, Allyn & Bacon, and Commercial Georgraphy. Second Year: Instead of Caesar, Biology (½) Hunter. Third Year: Instead of French, Agriculture (1) Coaters. Fourth Year: Instead of French, Business Law (½) Huff Elementary Economics (½).

July 8, 1918, question of purchasing motor hacks was discussed also the question of petition to Palestine School Board for portion of territory voted them by Darke Co. Board of Ed.

July 9, 1918 - Be it resolved "That the Public interests of said District will best be served by furnishing motor driven vehicles or conveyances, as 'Motor Buses'. That it is necessary to purchase two such motor vehicles or 'Motor Buses' each having a carrying capacity of thirty pupils, and with suitable protection of such pupils while riding therein from the inclemencies of the weather.

Aug. 14, 1918 - Motion adopted declaring necessary to dispose of school properties at No. 6 and No. 10 Liberty Twp. that we advertise for 30 days the sale of No. 6 School house and outbuildings together with one eighth acre ground and other additional parts by sealed bids. That we sell #10 school house and grounds and other items such as desks furnaces, etc. at Public Auction. Charles Gieger was selected by board to auctioneer the property at No. 10. Clerk instructed to advertise sale of said properties in 'Hollansburg News' ".

Aug. 30, 1918, accept bid of V.E. Chenoweth to furnish two motor trucks of 30 pupils capacity Ford chassis with Indestructable Wheel Co's attachment together with a fourteen foot Wayne Works body built especially for the transportation of school children at $1075 each. Hired M. Lew Horn and Andrew B. Miller to drive buses.

Oct. 10, 1918 - moved that truck drivers Horn & Miller be instructed to drive trucks or take wheels to Nashville to have filling as exhibited to the Board of Ed. inserted into the wheels at cost of $13 per wheel.

Oct. 26, 1920, consider proposal of Whiteman & Stapleton for wiring school house and installing electric lights.

Olga Jones with Eleanor Roosevelt entering southern Ohio coal mine in 1934. Olga taught in Palestine and Hollansburg Schools, was Darke County Superintendent, then served in Washington D.C. as secretary to five presidents.

March 28, 1921 - special meeting called for purpose of consideration of means to convey pupils to school from the John Mikesell road and adjacent district on account of road conditions. A horse drawn hack was thought to be necessary to get to convey pupils and President Beatty volunteered to go to Preble Co., Monroe twp. to look at one with authority to purchase if satisfactory.

Aug. 8, 1921 - hired Dalton Mikesell, Ross Pitman and Harry Bickwe to drive trucks #1, 2, 3.

Jan. 3, 1922 - procedure established by the board in 1918 providing for district #6 and #10 Liberty Twp. to have one representative each on the board.

Sept. 3, 1923 - motion that a new room be built for school purposes carried.

In 1925, name of district changed from Hollansburg Village to Hollansburg Rural School District.

July 12, 1926, whereas the Board of Educ. of Darke Co., Ohio has transferred from the Harrison Prop. Schools territory to the Hollansburg Rural School District there are school buildings and lots known formerly as No. 7, 11, 12, 3. Therein and since said buildings are no longer needed for school purposes. Therefore be it resolved that said buildings and lots except Lot No. 7 be advertised and sold.

July 24, 1926 - necessary to construct erect and equip a new school building and repair and alter old school buildings and the purchase of an additional grounds for a 'site' the board then sold bonds to finance their project.

The brick for the new school was brought by box cars to Glen Karn and hauled by horse and wagon.

The building was completed in 1927. A gymnasium was added in 1939. Hollansburg and Palestine consolidated in 1953, and another addition was built in 1955.

A paper with a list of graduates of Hollansburg was found in with some old Hollansburg school record books. The students according to the list are:

1895 - Virgil Jones

1896 - Irvin Davis, Earnest E. Chenoweth, Flo Wolf, Ora Brodrick, J. Eugene Irelan, Winnie Hill
1897 - Rose Irelan, Viola Markley
1898 - Bertha Payne, Eugene Whiteman, Lacy Mikesell, Chester Chenoweth, Otto Albright, Nora Irelan, Murray Chenoweth
1899 - L.F. Hill, S.G. Chenoweth, C.D. Locke
1900 - Charlie Irelan, George Irelan, Frost Thomas, Emmett Thomas, Ethel Williams, Nora Payne
1901 - Everett White, Wm. I. Harrison, Oscar Polley, Clair Robertson, Forrest Chenoweth, Clara Peden, Zona Turner
1903 - Abe A. Dye, Harry Packer
1904 - Francis Spencer
1905 - O.L. Turner, O.G. Irelan, Flossie Diehl
1906 - Floyd Beetly, Rae Thomas, Howard Harley
1907 - Olga A. Jones
1908 - Mae Thomas, Izetta Irelan
1909 - India Chenoweth, Norene Harley, Harley Cheneoweth, Pearl Timmons
1910 - Etta Hill
1911 - Fay Meek, Chalmer Caskey, Fern Albright, Vonda F. Wampler
1912 - Neva Irelan, Nona Rupe, Netta Skinner, Marie Wolfal, Ruby Downing, Norma Chenoweth

The following list of early Hollansburg teachers has been gleaned from school records:

1909/10 - Edgar G. Weller, W.I. Harrison, Rae Thomas
1910/11 - Edgar G. Weller supt., Chas. V. Dumars, Flossie Diehl intermediate room, Rae Thomas primary room
1911/12 - Edger G. Weller, Chas. V. Dumars, Flossie Diehl, Izetta Irelan primary
1913/14 - Olga A. Jones supt., Isabel Skidmore, Wm. M. Hollinger, H.R. Harley, Martha F. Jackson
1914/15 - H.R. Harley supt., Jesse J. Rush, Wm. M. Hollinger, Martha F. Jackson
1915/16 - Howard Harley, Lorene Teagarden asst. principal, Walter S. Williams intermediate, Gladys Dunham primary
1916/17 - Walter Williams asst. principal, Elwood Zerkel, Marie Hiatt, Carrie R. Whittaker
1917/18 - Walter Williams, Alice Dunham primary, Bernice Michael, M.A. Brown, Edith Rider
1918/19 - Edna Jones, M.A. Brown principal teacher in high school, Norma Chenoweth high school room, Carl Puterbaugh, Mary Arnold intermediate, Zelma Zechar primary
1919/20 - Marion W. Richardson supt., Norma L. Chenoweth principal, Nellie V. Heck asst. principal, Hazel Harding, Jonas G. Royer, Edna Jones grades, Zellma E. Zechor grades, Dalton Mikesell and Arno Lowdenslager bus drivers
1920/21 - Orville E. Baker, Ruth Tillson, Ollie Moore, Lester J. DeFord, Gladys Jacobs, Norma L. Chenoweth
1920/21 - Lester J. DeFord supt., Norma L. Chenoweth principal, Gladys E. Jacobs asst. principal, Orville E. Baker, Ollie Moore, Ruth Tillson
1921/22 - E.W. Eley supt., Earl W. Webb principal, Mary Wood Hiatt asst. principal, Mrs. Herschel Mikesell, Jesse Baker grades 6-7-8, Mrs. Hershel Mikesell grades 3-4-5, Ruth Tillson primary room grades 1-2.
1922/23 - Norman E. Watson supt., Mary Hiatt principal, Raleigh S. Miller, H. Jesse Baker, Eva Mikesell, Ruth Tillson
1923/24 - N.E. Watson, Ernest S. Blainsey, Prudence W. Ridout, H. Jessee Baker, Edna Tillson, Louvera M. Miller, Wanda Mathews
1924/25 - Marshall C. Murray supt., Joseph H. Colvin principal, Mildred S. Moore asst. principal, H. Jesse Baker 7-8, Bertha A. Ginger 5-6, Edna Tillson 3-4, Opal Sinks 1-2
1925/26 - Joseph H. Colvin supt., Ralph Eades principal, Julia Pierce asst. principal, Mildred King asst. principal, H. Jesse Baker 7-8, Bertha A. Ginger 5-6, Edna Tillson 3-4, Opal Sinks 1-2
1926/27 - Joseph H. Colvin supt., B.W. Timmons principal, Mildred King asst. principal, Maxine Kimmel high school teacher, H. Jesse Baker 7-8, Mary Timmons 5-6, Edna Tillson 3-4, Opal Sinks 1-2
1927/28 - J.H. Colvin, Ray C. Wilson, Mildred King, Lillian Wittman, H. Jesse Baker, Mary Timmons, Amber Campbell, Bernice Ungericht, Lovera M. Beatty
1928/29 - Ray C. Wilson, D.H. Jacoby, Mildred King/Harriet Ellis, Lillian Wittman, H. Jesse Baker, Louvera Beatty, Edna Tillson, Bernice Ungericht
1929/30 - Ray C. Wilson, Lowell G. Downing, Harriet Ellis, Lillian Wittman, H. Jesse Baker, Mary Timmons, Edna Tillson, Bernice Ungericht

Township Schools - Other district schools of Harrison Township were: #1 Yankeetown, #2 Braffetsville, #3 section 30 (thought to be Prairie Sunbeam), #4 Lake, #5 South of Hollansburg, #6 West of New Madison, #7 Oak Hill, #8 Friendship, #9 Section 23, #10 Section 19, #11 Section 14, and #12 Payne Road.

The township subdistricts were changed in the 1850's, thus many of the locations of the schools in existence at that time were moved. Some of the original schools are thought to have been moved. Records from the Court of Common Pleas for July 15, 1854 (Book N-1, 332) recount the civil action between Judson Jaqua of subdistrict #1 and Samuel Thomas of subdistrict #9 vs. George W. Coover, Darke County auditor and others.

Jaqua and Thomas had brought the action because of a redistricting in Harrison township. The Harrison township board of education was going to assess all township people for rebuilding and repairing new school houses in the new subdistricts. But since #1 and #9 were not greatly changed, and their school houses in good order, Jaqua and Thomas felt it unfair for those in their districts to be assessed to pay for the other school houses.

"Plaintiffs further say that since the taking effect of the act of the General Assembly of this State to provide for the regulation of Common Schools, passed March 14, 1853, the

Board of Education of said township of Harrison have redistricted said Township, but the district lines of said Nos. 1 and 9 remain substantially as they did under the original law and the slight alterations which had been made, are not such as to destroy the utility of the school houses so built as aforesaid, as the said houses are so located as to accomodate the inhabitants of said subdistricts and there is no intention of rebuilding or repairing houses for either of said Subdistricts. Plaintiffs further say that although the inhabitants of said Subdistricts Nos. 1 and 9 have thus built and fully paid for their school houses as aforesaid, Yet there are other Subdistricts in said Township of Harrison the inhabitants of which have no suitable School Houses, and have never been taxed to pay for the erections of such houses and as instances Plaintiff will mention subdistricts Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 said Subdistricts have old log or frame houses which never were costly and which from age and delapidation, would not longer be made to answer the purposes of School houses, without a heavy expense for Repairs and plaintiffs are informed and believe that it is the intention of the Board of Education and the local directors of said Subdistricts to erect new houses on each said last mentioned subdistricts as well be more fully stated hereafter."

Jaqua and Thomas, whose district school houses had been in existence in 1852, #1 cost including stone fence being $400 and #9 fully furnished and having been built fall of 1852 at cost of $312, felt that the assessment for building purposes should be laid upon the subdistricts separately.

Further insight given by "that the division of said Township into Subdistricts as aforesaid and as set forth in said petition rendered the School Houses in subdistricts No. 3, 4 and 6 inconvenient for the inhabitants of said Subdistricts and said Board had in good faith and...ordered the School houses...sold." These school houses were then sold in May of 1854.

Because of this legal injunction, the subdistricts 3, 4, and 6 having sold their school houses, could not build new houses and hold school. No. 4 had partly completed a school house but could not complete.

The Harrison Township Board of Education in 1917 was R.F. Downing, Jno. E. Hill, J.A. Hoffman, O.H. Odell, and A.E. Rinehart. From the board's records book 1917-1926, is found the following entries:

Aug. 11, 1923 - "Whereas sub-districts No. 3, 7, and 8 have not sufficient scholars to justify the expense of their maintenance be it resolved that the above named districts be temporarily suspended, and the pupils thereof be transported to other such schools under the jurisdiction of this board as shall be found most economical."

Aug. 28, 1923 - The board employed Wilber Alexander to "convey all pupils from No. 3 to No. 11 and from No. 8 to No. 6, and all high school pupils over four miles from High School at New Madison, Ohio to be hauled at the option of said Wilbur Alexander, he to receive added compensation therefor from the parents of such students."

Sept. 25, 1923 - The board met to consider combining of sub-districts No. 6 and No. 7; No. 6 to be the recognized district. A petition signed by R.E. Downing, Jos. Hill, Catherine Downing, Ruth L. Downing, Ruth A. Downing, S.W. Armacost, Fannie E. Armacost, Jas. L. Downing, Minnie I. Downing, Bland Downing of sub-district No. 7 asked to be transferred to sub-district No. 6.

June 12, 1926 - "The territory over which the Harrison Twp. Board held jurisdiction has been transferred to Hollansburg and New Madison School districts, and Chas. A. Wilt County superintendent of schools has ordered the Harrison Twp. Board to pay $426.95 of its funds on hand to Hollansburg School district and $956.52 to New Madison School district."

Lake School

Lakeview School #4 - Jan. 31, 1857, Harvey Rush leased to the Harrison Board of Education, land beginning at a stone 39 rods 13 feet from the southwest corner of the NE ¼ of section 11. This school house is shown on the 1857 plat. (Deed Book E-2-428)

By 1875 the location for the school overlooked the lake in the SW quarter of section 1, on the east side of the road. This school first met in a wood frame building. This building was moved to Harry Barnhart's for use as a shop, and still stands. The picture is of the brick school house which was torn down in 1943 by Raymond Hollinger. The brick was just north of the wooden church on the same side of the road. Probably two churches held services in these old school buildings.

The following is taken from a January 11, 1892 Greenville newspaper article of Lake School

"A review of the past month's work was held at the school house last Wednesday evening, conducted by the teacher, both oral and written, beginning on page one hundred-twenty pages. Fifty-eight of the live, industrious and energetic pupils and teachers of the surrounding neighborhood entered the class. The following pupils and teachers completed their oral review without missing a single word. Leila Downing, Ida Royer, Retta Royer, Frank Royer, Eva Heironimus, Louisa Smelker, Anna Hollinger, Jesse Hollinger, C.W. Heironimus, Theodore Finnard and Eva Heironimus. In the B Grade Ella Royer and Cora Moore were best, both missing the word 'cuisine'. In Fifth Reader Grade Olive Noggle was best.

"A few minutes were then spent in social pleasure. First, a song, entitled 'The Man Behind the Plow', a solo and chorus, by Edward Hollinger and the school. May we ever remember the man that walks behind the plow.

'Then, boys, don't be too ready
To leave the good old farm,
Your father's strength is failing,
Soon he'll need your youthful arm.'

"Next, a duet, the 'Two Orphans', by Cora and Ollie Moore, with guitar accompaniment by Mr. Mikesell. Music

being again called for by the visitors, Mr. Mikesell favored us with a song, 'The Ship that Never Returned'.

"The following list was used in written spelling: Biennial, epiglotis, nucleus, sycophant, trachea, scarlatina, demoniacal, hymeneal, sympathy, handkerchief, banana, verbatim, attache, alternate, connoisseur, simultaneous, tympanum, orthoepy, avoirdupois, gladiolus. The grades in written spelling ran from 55 to 100%. The following made 100%: M.A. Brown, C.W. Heironimus, Anna Hollinger, Ida Royer, Frank Royer, Eva Heironimus, Louis Smelker, Theodore Finnard, Walter Woods, and James Foutz. Jessie Hollinger, Leila Downing and Retta Royer made 95%.

"The 'little folks' received many kind words in their exercises, spelling, 'motion songs', & c.; also, 'Home, Sweet Home', in which all joined with evident satisfaction. We were glas to see so many of the patrons, neighbors, and old folks enjoying themselves. Come again.

Eliza L. Chrismer, Secretary."

Leola Edger recalls fondly the beautiful lake where she would take her classes for hikes. One student knew of an Indian altar near the lake from where he would bring wampum to school.

Lester Hollinger recalls George McCoy and Gol Hart would bring snakes from the lake and put in the outhouses. Also the students had built some grass houses in the fields near the school, and once when the county superintendent was there on his visit, the grass houses caught fire. Leola's sister taught at Clark's Station, and Lester seems to recall that they may have taken sleigh ride there for get together with the students at Clark's Station.

From old school records are found early teachers for Lake School: Clara Stegall March-June 1900, O.H. O'Dell 1900-1904, Ora Straight 1904/05, H.C. Ketring 1905/06, J. Frank Royer 1906-08, Haed C. Ketring 1908/09, C.R. Bookwalter 1909, C.E. Swisshelm 1909/10, Harter Wheeler 1910/11, Elizabeth Baker 1911-13, Grover Miller 1913/14, Edith E. Ebberts 1914/15, J.F. Royer 1915/16, Clara Glenn 1916-19, Olive E. Pierce 1919/20, Jonas Royer 1920-22, Ralph McKee 1922/23, W.E. Kershner 1923/24, Leola Troutman Edger 1923-26.

Early enumerations taken in this district by Sol Bollinger show the following number of school age, 6-21 years old, students in the district: 1905 - 61, 1906 - 53, 1910 - 40, 1911 -33, 1912 - 37, 1913 - 38, 1914 - 42.

The school board members in 1904 were Wesley Barnhart, Solomon Bollinger, Noah Brown, Sherman Morgan, and Jacob Hollinger. At this time the district may have been called district #2.

September 4, 1905, the board adopted the following course of study:

First year: Reading McGuffeys new first Reader. Spelling words in Reader. Penmanship learn to make the letters. Arithmetic learn to count and read and write small numbers also solve easy problems.

Second year: Reading McGuffeys new second Reader. Spelling words in Reader. Use of spelling book optional with teacher. Penmanship Copy Book. Arithmetic learn to add substract multiply and divide accurately and rapidly.

Third year: Reading McGuffey new fourth Reader. Spelling same as third year. Penmanship copy book. Arithmetic Whites first book Part 1. To P 70 To 92 To 116. Language Metcalfs elementary English to Lesson 42 To 83 To 120. Geography, Eclectic Primary To N Eng. To Brit Amer To end.

Fifth year: Reading McGuffeys new fourth Reader. Spelling to P65 To P82 To P. 100. Penmanship Copy Book. Arithmetic Whites first Book 117 to 138. Finish Review from Language Metcalfs Elementary English to Lesson 162 to 203 to end of Book. Geography Eclectic Elementary Same as fourth year. History McMaster Primary (one third each term).

Sixth year: Reading McGuffeys new Fifth Reader. Spelling same as fifth year. Penmanship Copy book. Arithmetic Whites complete to fractions to decimals to denominate nos. Language Metcalfs Elementary English to Lesson 83 to 162 to 3rd book. Geography Eclectic Complete to Ohio to northern states to S.A. History same as fifth year.

Seventh year: Reading McGuffeys new fifth reader. Spelling book to p. 115 top 130 finish book. Penmanship copy book. Arithmetic Whites complete to mensuration to insurance to pres. W. Grammar Harveys new English grammar to part # to infinitive p. 113 to syntax. Geography Eclectic Complete to p. 79 to Africa to end of book. History McMasters advance to Chapter 8 to 13 to 19 Physiology Overtons intermediate.

Eighth year: Reading same as seventh or supplement. Spelling same as Seventh year. Penmanship copy book. Arithmetic Whites complete to involution p ev. to appendix. finish. Grammar Harveys new English grammar to rules of syntax to figures finish. Geography Eclectic complete to northern S. to P 79 finish book. Physiology Overtons Advanced to chapt. 14 to 28 finish book. Algebra Rays new Elementary Algebra.

The next year the board added literature, Blaisdell first step with American British authors.

Nov. 1, 1909. "The church on the school ground has fell back to the school board. It has been moved by Henry Gauby and Second by Jacob Hollinger to sell the church and contents except organ."

Feb. 6, 1911. Harter Wheeler asked permission to have Spelling School.

Aug. 2, 1920. Tuition paid to New Madison High School for Cecil Royer, Irene Patterson, Lillie Gauby, Loyd Snyder, Marie Snyder, Milliard Royer, Ralph McKee, and Myrtle Drill.

The school board in 1924 consisted of T. Edw. McCoy, Harry Barnhart, Loy Schlecty, Irvin Hollinger, and Handy Riegle.

June 7, 1926. "On motion by Schlecty and seconded by Riegle we turn over to New Madison cons. school all money we have on hand. There being no further business to occupy the attention of the board it was moved by Riegle and seconded by Schlecty to adjourn never to meet again in the little red school house on lake hill. Handy Riegle Clerk-Treas."

School #5 - Charles Brown leased land to Harrison Township Board of Education Nov. 22, 1856. This plot commenced 79 rods north of the SW corner of section 8. (Deed book E-2-425)

The brown trimmed, yellow house across the street from the Church in Hollansburg was originally an old school that was located south of Hollansburg, and moved prior to 1918. This could have been from district #5.

School #6 - This school has the distinction of having had their 40th straight reunion in 1980. The reunions have been held at the New Madison Universalist Church. Naomi Jobes, has not missed one reunion, including the year she had a broken hip, and her sister took her in wheelchair.

Other alumni who have attended include: Raymond Wade, Addie Noggle, Omer Thomas, Raymond Thomas, Earl and Wealthy (Noggle) Cox, Saul and Hazel Burns, Raymond Forrest, Alma Schlecty, Glen Hinesley, Lola Hill, Alma (Shoemaker) Wilson, Edger Lufbouer, Mildred Lufbourer, Fay (Bartons) Dubbs, Herschel and Opal (Barton) Hill, Violet (Mills) Loudenslager. Their first reunion had 92 in attendance, while 1980, there were 11.

Naomi recalls teachers Howard Kettring, Sarah Ketring, Charlie Swisshelm, Denzil Hill, U.S. Ray, and Pearl Thomas.

Naomi tells the story of when they used to get penholders for getting good grades, she and Alta (Vanomer) Mains each got one, different. Alta had gotten one with candy in it, while Naomi got a green bubble penholder. Alta wanted to trade penholders with Naomi but Naomi didn't because Alta had eaten some of the candy already. Later Alta brought some homemade cake with two layers of white and one of pink to school. Alta asked to trade the piece of cake for the penholder so the trade was made. Later Alta wanted a piece of cake but Naomi didn't want to trade, but finally said OK but would have to be a piece of the white layer, Alta wanted a piece of the pink layer - a fight ensued and the cake was trampled.

#7, Oak Hill School - May 17, 1856, Ludlow Spencer leased to the Harrison township Board, land in the NE corner of section 9, beginning 21 rods west of the NE corner of the section, thence 2 rods south, 11 rods west, 10 rods north, 11 rods east, 8 rods south.

M.S. "Red" Martin, attended this one room school known as Oak Hill in the 1910's. Two of his teachers were Mary Hiatt, and Lelia Chenoweth. Red remembers Lelia often would pick him up in mornings on way to school in her Model "T", and she taught Red how to drive in that three pedaled car. There was a wood house at #7 that the teacher sometimes kept her horse in.

School records show the following teachers for #7: V.T. Boli 1903-05, Otto Downing 1905/06, Ora G. Irelan 1906/07, Walter A. Downing 1909-12, Edna Darland 1912/13, Mary Wood Hyatt 1913-15, Eunice Wilcox 1915/16, Edna Smelker 1916/17, Lelia D. Chenoweth 1917-22, Louvera Miller 1922/23.

Greenville Township Schools

The Greenville township schools were the last to consolidate, existing into the 1950's.

School #11, Shady Glen - This school building is now a residence. Gilbert Lease was a teacher here for many years.

The school's beginnings can be found in the Sept. 21, 1866 deed from John and Catherine Lindermooth to the Greenville township Board of Education. (Deed book Z-2-283)

School #12, Hominy Station or Halderman School - Dec. 22, 1843, part of the west ½ of SW¼ of section 5 twp. 11 R2E, beginning at a stake west side of road from Greenville to Palestine to where the road from Schrocks house intersects, thence west, south, east, and north was sold by Christian Schrock to James Bryson, William F. Bishop, and Michael Emrick, directors of Greenville school district #2. (Deed book, N-1-506)

Oct. 20, 1855, Henry Brumbaugh sold to the directors of Greenville twp. school district #14, Isaiah Miley, Geo. Holtry and Daniel Philippi a part of the W½ of SW¼ of Section 5. This lot was bounded on the south by Brumbaugh, the north by Wm. Bruchwalter, west to center of Greenville-Palestine Rd., east from road to make ½ acre. (C-2-512)

May 23, 1871, Jacob and Mary Ann Halderman deeded to the Greenville township Board of Education part of west ½ of SW¼ of section 5. (Deed book Vol. 58-217)

Miss Nellie Phillips taught here many years until its last year in 1955/56. The brick building has been remodeled into a dwelling residence.

Hominy Station School 1923

Oak Grove

Oakgrove School, #13 - The first school in this area was among the earliest schools in the county.

This school John Talbot taught at as schoolmaster, and as indicated on page 232 of the 1880 Beers history. "Talbot, an offshoot of the old Earls of Shrewbury, ennobled in the fif-

teenth century in the person of the antagonist of the Maid of Orleans, sometimes taught a country school, and sometimes fulfilled the duties of the office of Constable of Greenville Township. He was fond of his bottle, which he kept hid, out in hollow stumps and brush-heaps, near his schoolhouse, in the vicinity of the settlement, near the Prophet's town on Mud Creek, where it was located; he fell into disfavor and left the country about 1821. Log cabins, in which in place of glass greased paper admitted the light, and a chimney occupied the end in which log-heaps were burned to keep up the requisite warmth, were the requisite edifices in which they each 'taught the young idea how to shoot'."

Michael Judy sold to the directors of school district #2 for Greenville and Neave townships, James Bryson, William F. Bishop, and Elias Bromagem, ½ acre in the southeast corner of the NW¼ of section 9, township 11, Range 2 East, June 10, 1850. (Deed book X-1-316)

The next location for the school to service this area was the Oakgrove location on Stingley Road. Margaret Unger recounts that the brick school - now a remodeled residence for the Schmidts - replaced an older wooden schoolhouse which burned. Margaret and Herman have five of the original school registers for Oakgrove for the years 1861-65, 1886-90, 1890-95, 1897-99, and 1899-1900.

The oldest 1861 record includes student names of Bishop, Vantilburgh, Birch, Beatty, Heifner, Perry, Ryan, Scribner, Whitmore, Brumbaugh, Foch, Devor, Woods, Housse, and Welch. Also early student names included Judy, Rhoads, Vought, and Grovener.

The teachers at Oakgrove recorded in these books are: Mary Buchanan 1862, B.G. Wenger 1862, Mary J. Martin 1863, J.T. Martz 1863/64. The amount due from the public fund this term was $120.00 or 4¾ cents per scholar per day. Valeria F. Bishop 1864, Thomas B. Hannah 1864/65, Mollie E. Linn 1886, Mollie E. Rhoades 1886/87, W.H. Rush 1887, V.Z. Miller 1887/88, W.H. Keckler 1888/89, Alice E. Rothman 1889, Libbie Dennison 1889/90.

The 1890-95 register shows that Jonathan P. Collett taught the 1890/91 term. The 1891/92 term was taught by Alice Brumbaugh who notes in March 1892, there was scarlet fever in the Craig family. Krickenberger taught the 1892/93 term noting, great "diminution in attendance" because of scarlett fever. Students struck with scarlet fever included Cora Judy, Candia Ullery, Albert Harter, Oliver Harter, Orville Harter, Boyton Ullery, Risley Ullery, Maud Pearce, and Dessie Pearce.

O.R. Krickenburger lists these visitors for 1892/93: Maggie Schultz, Ann Lynn, Henry Schultz, I.M. Pearce, Jos. Bryson, Santa Claus, Myrtle Williams, Samuel Judy, Jesse Andres, and Carl Craig.

On Jan. 17, 1893 school was closed on account of scarlet fever. It appears by the attendance records some students continued school. Then on Feb. 13, school was reopened by order of the Board of Directors. Carrie Rush who taught the 1893/94 term seems problemed with whooping cough in her students. The next term was Sept. 17, 1894 to March 11, 1895 which was taught by Carrie Rush. Helen A. Plowman, who taught the 1895/96 term, notes that Oct. 2, 1895 was German Day. "No school because most of the children wished to go to Greenville."

The last two registers list these teachers at Oakgrove: Dr. K. Judy 1896/97, Margaret Manix 1897, Carrie Rush 1897/98, and also the spring term March 7 to April 29 of 1898. V.A. Welbown 1898/99, and Helen A. Plowman spring 1896.

V.A. Welbown 1899, Howard C. Ketring 1899/190, and also the spring term 1900.

Washington Township Schools

Page 332, of the *Biography of Darke County,* 1900 gives this information on Samuel Cole in the biography of his son Samuel Jr., "...in March of 1817, they came to Darke county, Mr. Cole securing a claim comprising the southeast quarter of section 27, Washington township. Since that time Mr. Cole has been identified with the growth and progress of that section of Darke county. Mr. Cole and his sons cleared a small tract and erected a log cabin, which was the third home in the township, the other two being the property of Jacob and Martin Cox, who were brothers. In this primitive abode Mr. Cole and his family resided for some time, but later an addition was built and in this, during the winter of 1821, Mr. Cole conducted the first school ever held in Washington township. Here he resided until 1824."

Other sources actually give the date for this first school near Sharpeye in the years 1818 and 1819. Information on the schools of this period is further added by this from page 333 of the 1900 book, "Joseph Cole, whose name introduces this review, was born in Washington township, December 29, 1823, and spent the first eighteen years of his

Old Turkey Center School

New Turkey Center School

Turkey Center 1924 - Standing l to r: Everet Beanblossom, Stanley James, Virgil Detter, Bernice Michael Hawkeye teacher, Everett Shell, Glen Shade, Francis Best Stump, Gladys Shade, Bernice Deeter Miller. Second Row: Robert Rust, Marie James, Albert Beanblossem, Doyle Deeter, Rebecca Cox, Howard Shell, Orla Fansler, Velma Deeter. Front row: Isabelle Shell, Hazel Deeter, Mollens, Herbert Best, Johnny Henning, Annabelle Shell, M. Beanblossem, Roy Denver Slick, Melvin Onkst, Carl Deeter.

life upon the old homestead assisting his father through the summer months in the work of the fields, while in the winter season he pursued his education in the schools of the neighborhood. In those days schools were held in any vacant cabin that could be secured and were conducted on the subscription plan." "...from 1841 to 1857 he taught. In 1846, in company with his brother, Samuel, he erected a saw-mill, which they operated until 1850, when they sold the property."

A school building was erected 1821 on Martin Cox land. This log building was replaced by a brick in 1869, and still standing, and occupied by the Grimes family. A log school was built in 1835 at McClure's Mill. In 1856 John McClure deeded land to the Washington Board of Education in the southwest corner of section 15. (Deed book E-2, 37) At that time McClure was chairman of the school board and S.C. Skidmore was clerk. By 1871, Washington township had ten other brick buildings. These included Sharpeye, Hillgrove, Turkey Center, Spring Hill (Ohler District), McClure, Elm Hill, Stuck, Flory, Cole, Hufford, #9, and #12. Five of these schools remained in 1937 when merged. The Washington Township School was built in 1939. An addition to this building was made 1956, and in 1957, Washington became a part of the Greenville School system.

Many of the Washington township students had gone to high school in Greenville before that time. Grif Eidson relates that he passed a test upon his eighth grade graduation, that qualified him to go to Greenville high school, and his tuition paid by the township.

Turkey Center, #1 - Josiah D. Elston leased to the Washington School District #1, land in the SE ¼ of section 26 to the directors March 21, 1842. The school directors were Samuel Shylar, Biazillae Hendrickson, and Samuel K. Clark. (M-1-301)

Henry Lephart, born July 15, 1843, lived in the area and attended, probably, Turkey Center giving this account in his biography, page 259, of the 1900 *Biographies of Darke County.* "The first school he ever attended was held in a log building in Washington township, the dimensions of the structure being 16 x 20 feet. The building was covered with a board roof, and was furnished with a box stove, and slab benches formed of puncheons with the flat side up, placed upon wooden pins. The writing desk used by the big boys and girls was a wide board resting upon wooden pins driven into auger holes in the wall. The discipline of the school was maintained through fear of the rod and the dunce-cap, and the old adage, 'Spare the rod and spoil the child,' found exemplification in those primitive institutions of learning."

May 18, 1868, the land was sold to the Washington board of education by Josiah D. and Mary Elston. (Deed book 53-223)

Thurman House recalls his Grandmother Stoner telling him that her father would drag a log through the snow to make a path for her to go to school. She lived in the old Deeter place where Jesse Miller now lives.

D.W. Mote refers to the district as the Rank-Armacost District when he taught there in 1882-83.

Both brick schools of this district still stand.

Mrs. DeHoot was an early teacher.

Virgil Deeter, Clarabelle (Shade) Fellers, and Myron Noll attended this school. Myron recalls his teachers Lowell Lephart, Catherine Blocher, Ora Bowers, and Olive Neileigh. Myron taught at Turkey Center from about 1927 to 1934. The last teacher was Mable Rentz. 1937 was when the remaining five one-room schools of Washington township merged with McClure's.

Myron Noll recalls that the township owned a bus which picked up kids over the township and hauled them to respective schools. Ira Cox drove for many years while Myron taught at Turkey Center. The kids that went to high school would get off the bus and wait at Turkey Center until the bus finished hauling the younger school kids, then the bus would return to take the high school kids to Greenville. The bus started probably about 1927.

Elm Hill School 1910, Earl Lantz teacher. Front Row l to r: Willard Asterman, Charles Kester, John Skidmore, Loanna Kentner, Robert Skidmore, Wenger, Nellie Kester, Esther Kentner, Lloyd Glunt, Marvin Austerman, Joe Cole. Second Row l to r: Lawrence Kester, Leslie Kester, Wenger, Glen Austerman, Willard Wenger, Paul Oswalt, Pearl Cole, ? . Back Row l to r: Chester Oswalt, Harry Musselman, Howard Kester, Omer Wenger, Carrie Musselman, Delsie Skidmore, Elsie Kester.

Sharpeye School #6 - Joseph Wenger sold to Henry Snell, Joseph Wenger, Norman Sumner, and George Elston, trustees for Washington township school district #3, July 13, 1844: land in the NE corner of section 33 twp. 12, R1E, commencing 8 rod west of the NE corner. (Deed book N-1-661)

Henry and May Snell sold land commencing in the SE corner of Elias Wenger land in section 27 to the Washington township Board of Education, May 31, 1855. (Deed book C-2-1225)

Dilman W. Mote, who attended Sharpeye school, recounted in his 1940 recollections, "...I have remembered Abe Wengers 'stomping' Irish Tooney or Shea in a school row. There was a trial in court; Bill Elston's frightful whipping of Pete Roger's for fighting Sam Elston; any other, warlike school and incidents, etc. (about all the neighborhood troubles) in the Sharpeye School district. The population heterogeneous lot English, Dutch, German, Irish, Norse, Sweede. But nothing serious. The school went on every winter and sometimes in summer, amusing, perhaps".

Noah Warvel went to school here, recalls teachers Blanche Reesor, Mary James, Morris Bryson, and the spelling bees that took place on Friday nights.

Sharpeye was in the group that traded off having cipher-ing matches and spelling bees between Turkey Center, #12, Sharpeye, Washington township.

Virgil Deeter began teaching at Sharpeye in the fall 1931, when Sharpeye, Elm Hill, and #12 merged, meeting at Sharpeye. There were 49 kids in the eight grades, and they were hauled to Sharpeye school in a Model "T" bus.

Myron Noll followed Virgil teaching at Sharpeye in about 1934 and taught until 1937 when the remaining five schools merged in Washington township. Myron then taught at Palestine.

The brick school building last used still stands, now used as a residence.

Myron Noll followed Virgil teaching at Sharpeye in about 1934 and taught until 1937 when the remaining five schools merged in Washington township. Myron then taught at Palestine.

The brick school building last used still stands, now used as a residence.

Elm Hill School #7 - Carrie (Musselman) Teaford of Nashville went to this school. She relates that they had no water, so usually two older boys would carry a pail of water from a neighboring farm. Some of the younger kids would pour water back in the pail that they did not drink, so Carrie and another girl would bring a quart container to hold their own water.

Daniel and Sarah Rarich sold land commencing in the SE

District No. 6,

Sharpeye, Washington Twp., Ohio

1903—1904

PUPILS:

Frank Shively,	Freddie Brooks,
Lawrence Jefferis,	Bennie Flatter,
Elmer Lythe,	Roscoe Stephens
Couvin Mote,	Myra Jefferis,
Arando Harter,	Myrtle Dancer,
Clarence Snyder,	Norah Jefferis,
Chester Teaford,	Pearl McKhan,
Harry Shively,	Shirley Skidmore,
Russel Brooks,	Ettie Wenger,
Dannie Arnett,	Elsie Harter,
George Berturm,	Lottie Harding,
Walter Brooks,	Lillie Harter,
Harry Harter,	Marie Eidson,
Willie Dancer,	Clara Harter,
Earnie Harter	Dessie Flatter,
Willard Eidson,	Laura Harter,
Harold Skidmore,	Hazel Harding,
Harry Williams,	Ollie Arnett,
Chester Harter,	Merl Brooks,

Fannie Creek.

Board of Education:

D. W. Shively, B. G. Eidson, W. D. Jefferis

G. E. HAMILTON, Teacher.

H. G. PHILLIPS, PUBLISHER WILLIAMSPORT, PA

Bowman District #12: Standing l to r: Leonard Young, ? , Margarite Clemens Dixon, Marie Bass Stephens, Gladys Clemens Hurd, Blanche Shockney Reesor teacher, Alverta Bass, Laura Kreitzer Hoover, Lucille McCown, Nicolas Bass. Second row l to r Bowman, ? , Ralph Bass, Glen Clemens, Kathleen McCown Shoemaker, Desota Bass, ?Kreitzer, ? Kreitzer. Front Row, ?, Alma McCown, Eva Lee Clemens, Neff, Francis Neff, Freda McCown, ? , Harlan Clemens.

#12 School, Washington Township, 1908. Earl Lantz - teacher.

District School No. 12

corner of section 30 twp. 12 R1E "to build a School house and put the lot under a good post and rail fence" to a school district #7 directors Nathan W. Perry, Thomas F. Chenoweth, and Olan Summers December 5, 1840. (Deed book L-1, pg. 465)

Richard P. and Julia Chenoweth deeded to Washington twp. board of education Nov. 24, 1854 land commencing 19 rd. E of NW corner of sec. 32. The board was Daniel Young, James Cole, Thos. F. Chenoweth. (Deed Book B-2-243)

Myron Noll taught here 1927-1929.

School #12, Joint District School or Bowman School -School #12 of Washington Township was called Joint District because this school had students from both German and Washington Townships. The school is located on Nashville Road.

Feb. 8, 1855, Azariah and Malinda Okey sold to Washington township Board of Education, represented by Samuel C. Skidmore, land commencing at southeast corner of SW ¼ section 31. (Deed book B-2, 242)

Teachers at this school included: Earl Lantz 1906-1909, Mary James, Morris Bryson 1910, Magel (Smith) Moore 1911/12, Jessie Heller 1913/14, Ira Cole 1915/16, Bill Ellis about 1919, Thurl Stephens 1920, Anna Mae Clemens, Bernice Michael, Delsie Skidmore 1917/18, Ruth Holiday. In 1931, Washington township students went to Sharpeye, and German township students from this school went to Longtown.

Keith and Naomi (Fernsler) Stephens each attended the joint school.

Naomi remembers one year when the school's spelling bee winners were taken in a big wagon by teacher Ira Cole to compete at Hillgrove. She thinks some Bass kids and Gladys Clemens also went. Quite a few ciphering matches were held at #12. These drew contestants that were out of school as well as students.

The school had eight grades. Keith recalls that new students would begin in chart class - where they would identify letters and words placed on a board or chart at the front of the classroom. Then they would start in on the McGuffey readers in following grades.

No. 12 school building is still standing and currently being used as a residence by the Barnes.

The picture of the 1908 class of #12 School was Earl Lantz's second term of teaching. He taught at the Joint District School from 1906 until 1909. The desk he used at this school can be seen at the Garst Museum. Earl taught at several other schools and later became a minister.

Neave Township Schools

The one-room schools of Neave were Weaver Station, Ft. Jefferson, Pee Wee (Rte. 121), Arnold, Baker or Baker Store, Excelsior or Hardscrabble, #7.

Baker Store School #4 - Frank Baker, his parents, and grandparents all went to Baker School. The brick school building, now used by Garbers as shop, was built on the same foundation as the preceeding frame school building. The interior of the school had no regular desks, but planks of wood laid set in bored holes in the walls.

Nellie Fowble recalls teachers Forman, Omer Broderick, Lon Cable, Mary Harter, Zoe Wenrick, Ward Trissel. There were over 50 students in the school when Broderick taught there.

Iva Deeter taught at Baker School from 1930 until he auto accident in Baker in 1932. She had 21 students. She recalls that the people in that district did not want to consolidate with Palestine when other schools first did, as they wanted their own school district. Iva recalls the students used to play fox and geese on snowy days, blackman, and darebase. The coal stove stood in the NW corner just inside the door to the one room brick school.

A Baker School Souvenir for 1906 lists the following students:

Grade 1 - Jesse Brumbaugh, Ira Edger, Mabel Daugherty, Maggie Fisher, Frank Grosvenor, Elmer Price, Mary Butts

Grade 2 - Guy Oda, Earl Bausman, Nellie Stephens, Ethel Wagner, Myrtle Stephens.

Grade 3 - Herbert Haines, Orville Oda, Gracie Stephens Ethel Wagner, Myrtle Stephens.

Grade 4 - Mamie Stephens, Mary Fisher, Willie Edger Ralph Daugherty, Homer Haines, Florence Price.

Grade 5 - Carl Wagner, Handy Reigle, Henry Beasecker

Grade 6 - Edith Wagner, Treva Stephens, Martha Tejan Mary Oda, Esta Pearce, Edna Pearce, Sadie Dalrymple.

Grade 7 - Emery Haines, Homer Butts, Vesta Daugherty, Mae Beasecker, Basil Teaford.

Grade 8 - Grace Baker, May Puterbaugh, Edna Tejan, Emma Oda, Lizzie Baker, Opal Clapp, Jessie Grosvenor, Berl Teaford, Walter Tejan, Ira Baker, Earl Grosvenor, Thurman Tejan, Jesse Baker, Irvin Reigle, Albert Hackett.

Upon a petition handed in to the Court of Probate Feb. 20, 1905, this district became special district #4, and defined as:

"Commencing on the north line of section sixteen (16), township eleven (11), range two (2) east, at the intersection of said north line with the center line of Mud Creek Ditch; thence southwesterly and south along the center line of said Mud Creek Ditch through said sections sixteen (16) and twenty-one (21) to the south line of said section twenty-one (21) township and range aforesaid; thence west along the south lines of said sections twenty-one (21) twenty (20) and nineteen (19) to the west line of said Neave township; thence north along the west line of said township and along the west lines of sections nineteen (19) and eighteen (18) to the northwest corner of said section eighteen (18) township and range aforesaid; thence east along the north lines of sections eighteen (18) seventeen (17) and sixteen (16), township and range aforesaid to the place of beginning."

Baker Store School #4 records show the 1905 board to be S. Grosvenor, J. Edward Haines, Eli Teaford, Charles S. Edger, C.O. Brumbaugh.

Aug. 7, 1905 - decided to hire Mr. Saylor to make new blackboard and repair old one at 60¢/yard. Hired Charley Dalrymple to clean schoolhouse. Hired O.W. Clapp as Truant Officer at $1.50/day for time necessarily employed. Authorized committee to buy coal.

Nov. 3, 1905 - Board of Education of Special District No. 4 Neave Twp. met in joint session with Board of Education of German Twp. for the purpose of annexing some territory from German Twp. to Special District No. 4. The Township Clerk Mr. Kester then read the petitions handed in by the citizens of the territory to be detached from German Twp. and annexed to Special District No. 4 Neave Twp. This then brought out quite a discussion from both boards. The Ger-

Baker School About 1906 or 1907. Front left to right: Jesse Brumbaugh, Elmer Price, Orville Oda, Mamie Stephens Haines, Mable Daugherty, Mary Butts, Ethel Trick, Frank Grossenor, Nellie Stephens Fowble, Lucille Haines Jackson, Ira Edger, Edna Price, Estie Price. 2nd row left to right: Guy Oda, Mervil Stephens, Ralph Daugherty, Herbert Haines, Roy House, Homer Haines, Handy Riegle, Willie Edger, Florence Price, Grace Stephens, Homer Butts, Treva Stephens. Back Row left to right: Carl Wagner, Irvin Riegle, Edna Tejan, Lizzie Baker, May Puterbaugh, Emma Oda, Vest Daugherty, Jessie Grosvenor, Opal Clapp, Emory Haines, Edith Wagner, Mary Oda, Martha Tejan.

man Twp. board contending that too much territory was required. The Board of Special No. 4 supporting the petition in every respect. Finally in order to bring the matter to a vote, Haines made a motion to accept the petition as presented. Motion was lost for want of a second. Then Metzcar of the German Twp. board made a motion to accept a petition leaving out half the amount of territory named in the first petition this motion was seconded by Koontz. In a yea and nay vote the German Twp. board voted unanimously against it. The motion was declared lost. Motion to adjourn carried.

Feb. 5, 1906 - Teacher granted permission to hold a prize spelling match.

March 5, 1906 - Teacher turned in bill of $10.10 for pump handle, ink, paper, brushes, etc.

May 21, 1906 - Discussion on township commencement for Patterson graduates.

Jan. 21, 1907 - Bill of $15.48 for school desks from Sears Roebuck & Co.

May 6, 1907 - Committee appointed to investigate buying slate blackboard.

Nov. 4, 1907 - Clerk read petition requesting the transferring of a certain territory viz. farms belonging to J.N. Royer, Dan Henne, Dr. Ford, and Mrs. Brumbaugh to Special Dis. No. 13 of Greenville Twp. After a somewhat lengthy discussion it was decided to meet the Board of Education of Sepcial District No. 13 at the Prosecution Attorney's office at Greenville, on Saturday Nov. 9 at 1 o'clock p.m. for the purpose of settling the matter.

Jan. 6, 1908 - Bills presented of $41.69 by Ross Supply Co. for slate board, $2 by David Weaver for work done on slate board, and bill of $4 by John Oda for work done on house and slate board.

Baker School

Oct. 5, 1908 - Bills presented: $48.60 for coal from J.M. McFarland, $27 for stove from Craig Bros., $5.65 for building chimney and material from Charles Edger, $1.90 for iron for chimney foundation and latch for coal shed by A.A. Stephens.

April 30, 1909 - Grosvenor stated it would be well to erect a temporary fence along the road to protect the trees set out by the teacher, Omar Broderick, and scholars.

Sept. 5, 1910 - D.E. Craig & Son paid $80.13 for roofing.

May 29, 1911 - Adopted Goff & Maynes book on Agriculture as text book in school.

Harry Lamb, C.S. Edger, C.O. Brumbaugh, Baker, and W.D. Albright were on the board in 1916.

June 2, 1924, the board paid tuition to Palestine for Edith and Mary Hawkey, Olive Armstrong, Macil Poling, $330. Also paid $284.92 to Palestine for transportation. Paid Oak

Grove School Board $25 for 5 seats. Paid Ansonia Board of Education $16 tuition for Marcella Lanich.

Aug. 17, 1932 - The board met in special session to decide whether to send the grade pupils to Palestine or hire a teacher. Palestine Board of Education stated they would come and get the pupils and teach them for the year 1932/33 for $4.75 per pupil per month or $38 per year. They also would take the high school pupils at $88 per pupil this year. The Board moved to accept and discontinue school at Baker this year.

Sept. 5, 1933, Board paid Omar L. Dill $30.40 for labor painting and repairing on school buildings and grounds.

The 1935 Board consisted of Melvin P. Spencer, Vern Hawkey, Burns, Sharp, Hicks.

Teachers at Baker have been: Omar Broderick 1905-09, Alonzo E. Cable 1909/10, Zoe Wenrick 1910/11, Mary James 1911/12, Ward Trissel 1912-16, Andrew A. Petry 1916/17, Helen A. Plowman and Ward Trissel 1917/18, Mary Wood Hyatt 1918-20, Alma Westfall 1920/21, Ester Royer Dicky 1921-26, Charles L. Williams 1926/27, Carroll A. Munn 1927/28, Blanche Shockney Resor 1928/29, Bernice Michael 1929/30, Iva L. Deeter 1930-32, school at Palestine 1932/33, Bernice Michael 1933-35, Winifred Hill 1935/36, John C. Puterbaugh 1936/37, Bernice Michael 1937/38, Bernice M. Hawkey 1938/39.

While some of the high school aged students started going to Palestine high school in the 1920's the grades continued to Baker. Danny Garber, who was on the school board, thinks it was around 1948 when the Baker district students finally divided to other schools. By this time only about 6 students were going to Baker school. Herschel Ross was driving the bus around 1923 that picked up high school students in the Baker district and drove them to Palestine. The Palestine hack would haul some grade students to Baker and let them out and then continue to Palestine with high school students. Several of the grade students, though, also started going to Palestine for their school during this early period. So by about 1948, when there were only about 6 students going to grades at Baker the school board let the district divide up as they wanted. For the most part, the north side of the district went to Palestine, the south side went to New Madison, and 2 or 3 in the NE corner of the district went to Greenville.

Charles Garber and family moved to the Baker School area in 1913. Danny Garber went through the eight grades there and recalls handy over, blackman, baseball, says the stone buried for homeplate still there. Also, Lowell Thomas name and the date 1907 is whittled in the girls outhouse.

#5 Weavers Station School - (Deed book W-1-364) Levi Burkett to Neave #5 directors: Isaac Hollinger, Mathew Curry, John Niswonger for district school house part of SE ¼ of sec. 29 twp. 11 R2E. Sept. 3, 1852.

The teacher's register for the school year commencing Feb. 21, 1855 and ending June 1, 1855 shows that Webster's spelling, McGuffey's Readers, Talbott's and Rory's Arithmetic, Kirkham's Grammar, Mitchell's Geography, and Davies Bourdon's Algebra texts were used. The teacher was Emlen W. Otwell.

Her students and their ages were: Thomas Souers, Harace Hiestand 12, Harrison Lowry 13, Clinton Calderwood 9, Melchezedeh Hann 10, George McHann 10, Willoughby Meeker 13, Albert Hecker 11, William Nyswonger 9, Hiram Nyswonger 11, David Berry 16, Daniel Burket 9, Manuel Hollinger 8, David Hollinger 10, Madison Crumrine 8, Samuel Guy 13, Silvester Miller 6, Samuel Miller 12, Mitchell Burket 12, Nathaniel Berry 14, C.W.M. Otwell 17, Jasper Lowry 11, Benjamin Burket 10, Eberle Otwell 15, Hiram Nyswonger, Jacob Cable 18, George Calderwood 5, T.N. Hollinger, Sarah Hecker 18, Eliza Loury 9, Henrietta Hiestand 10, Martha Hiestand 6, Amanda Guy 8, Elizabeth Hollinger 5, Minerva Crumrine, Betsy Cable 13, Susan Burket, Arrena Crumrine 11, Susan E. Guy 11, Susan Berry 5, Adeline Loury 16, Margaret Guy 16, Hester Hollinger 14, Eunice Otwell 17, Anna Mina Meeker 8, Anna B. Guy 11, Susan Gutshall 11, Mary Gutshall 8, Sarah Cable 12, Sarah A. Gutshall 7, Elizabeth Burket 10, Sarah Burket 9, Susan Miller 13, Mary Jane Miller 14, Cedona Crumrine 5, M. Price 9, Frances Shepherd, Edwin Hecker 5, Abraham Cable 6, Daniel Cable 8, Daniel Burket 7, William Burket 16, Ruben Burket 14, Noah Price 8, John Calderwood.

This school consolidated with New Madison. Ferris Pipenger built a house from the material from #5 school.

The 1888 plat lists this as school 1st district.

Teachers for Neave #1 have included Opal Mutchner and Pauline Williams 1930/31, Opal Mutchner and Meridith Gough 1931/32, Meridith Gough and Chas. Thomas 1932/33, Chas. Thomas and Meridith Gough 1933/34, Chas. Thomas and Virginia Hester 1934/35, Chas. Thomas and Myrtle Smith 1935/36, Chas. Thomas 1936/37, Dorene Clark 1937/38, Gladys Hercules 1938-42, Ruth Butler 1942/43.

In 1931 Ed Baker was carrying students to New Madison High School. In 1932, Ira Townsend was driving pupils to New Madison High School. In 1936 Leonard Knick was driving the students.

Aug. 2, 1943 - "Due to the fact that we cannot find a teacher the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that we ask the County Board of Education to transfer the Neave #1 Special School District to the New Madison Village School District."

School #7 - This school consolidated with New Madison. Willie Hollinger tore down the wooden two room school at corner of Slagles'.

The 1888 plat lists this as School 2nd District.

Indiana Schools

Second Schoolhouse in Franklin Township, Wayne County

While the *History of NE Wayne County,* pg. 48 informs us the first school was in Whitewater in 1818, the second schoolhouse in this township was near Bethel.

"About 1818, the second school house in the township was built on a site a half mile east of the present town of Bethel, the site now occupied by the cemetery. The first teacher was Joseph Harrison, a lame man, who made his home with his mother near the schoolhouse."

"A 'debating school' was held there during the early years. This school was replaced about 1825 or 1826 by a log house, which remained as a school until the township was redistricted about 1836."

"Several houses were built in various parts of Congressional Township 15 at that time. They were mostly of hewn logs."

No. 1, Bethel School - The school was located at the north end of Bethel. A frame house was erected 1844 on these grounds. (Source: *History of NE Wayne Co.*)

Pin Hook School #1 - This school in Randolph County is at the SW corner of intersection of 227 and Weavers-Ft. Jefferson Rd. It sat catycornered from the old Pin Hook Church. Jacob Harlan was the first teacher in 1851.

Earl Cloyd from Harmington Hills, Michigan went to Primer here. The Indiana schools had primer instead of first grade. His teacher in 1915/16 was thought to be Katherine Koch. Glen Chenoweth taught here 1913/14.

Pin Hook school ended about 1920. The building was moved to the Perry Slick farm.

Randolph School #8 - Olive V. Hart taught here 1913/14. The school was located on Route 36.

Edgewater School - This school was in the building at and belonging to the Union Literary Institute. It had two rooms and two teachers. The brick building was built 1857 replacing the original log buildings which started the 1846 Institute. The lower floor was used for elementary grades when the building came under the direction of Randolph County. Indiana students (white and colored) attended up until the 1920's when the students then went to Spartanburg. Lawrence Goens (born Aug. 1894) can barely recall in his early days the high school that was at the building. The high school was discontinued around 1900. Lawrence's Aunt Kate Goens taught there. Chels Mason taught grades there.

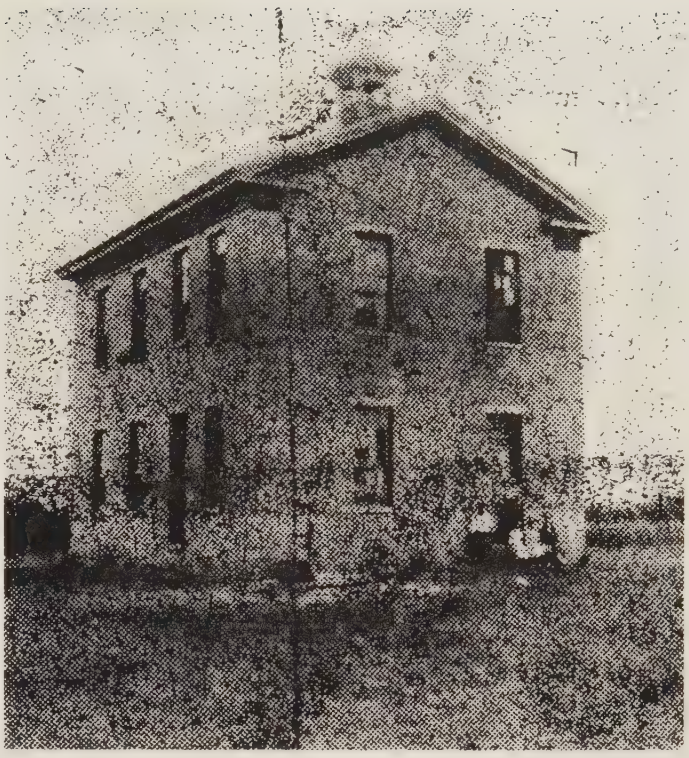
Union Literary Institute - Page 599 of the 1914 *History of Randolph County* records the following account of this school.

"The influence of the Quaker belief and the influence of the Quaker church as exemplified in the lives of its members, was shown in as marked a degree in the early schools as it was in the church.

"These great and good people believe in following the dictates of their own conscience and obeying the faithful injunctions made known to them by the 'moving of the spirit', not only in private life but in public life as well and in the school as well as the home and the church. All honor must be given to these men and women, simple in faith, who had the courage as well as conviction to do something for their fellowmen.

"In the quietude of their home deliberations or the spiritual environment of their weekday meetings came a convicting desire to put into effect what seemed to them to be the Will of God. Under such environment and desire to be of service to a down trodden race a few members belonging to the 'Newport Meeting' conceived the idea of endowing an institution for the high and noble purpose of carrying knowledge and learning within the reach of those who desire it.

"With this end in view, Nathan Thomas, William Clemens, David Wilcuts, Eli Hiatt, Jacob Hackett, Henry H. Way, John Randle, Daniel Hill, Thornton Alexander, Albert Smith, William Davidson, John H. Bond and Charles Clemens were selected by the donors as the board of managers of the new institution of learning to be established in the Edgewater colored community of Randolph county.



This picture of Union Literary Institute in Randolph County, taken in August 1913, shows the original two-story school building in Spartanburg.

"At the first meeting, 9th month 4, 1845, of the board, William Clemens was elected president, and Daniel Hill, secretary. The next day they met again and resolved, 'That this institution be called the Union Literary Institute.'

"They immediatedly proceeded to arrange for what they hoped to be a great school, and appointed 'Daniel Hill, John Randle and Thornton Alexander a committee to superintend the building of a hewed log house thirty feet long, twenty feet wide and two stories high' and to 'finish it off for the accommodation of a school'.

"These men were actuated by the highest of motives and sincerity and lost no time or opportunity in the execution of the trust placed upon them.

"They immediately appointed a committee to prepare a constitution for the government of the institution. In this they were aided by Mr. James S. Ferris, of Winchester, a man of scholarly attainment. Mr. Ferris was elected to the board of managers in 1845. In April, 1846, they arranged definitely for the organization of the school. 'On motion, resolved that we open a manual labor school on the 18th of next month and that Nathan Thomas and Thornton Alexander be permitted to report at this meeting at what age pupils shall be admitted and the length of time they shall be required to labor each day.' After retiring a short time the committee reported that students be admitted into the manual labor department at the age of fourteen, be required to labor four hours per day.' This is, perhaps, one of the oldest, if not the oldest, vocational schools of the state.

"Every effort was made to get a suitable person for principal of the school. It depended largely upon Oberlin College, and in June, 1846, they secured the services of Ebenezer Tucker, a graduate of that institution, 'for the term of eight months for the sum of two hundred dollars,

the school to commence on the 22nd of June'. They immediately entered into an agreement with Mr. Tucker to teach the school and agreed to furnish a team to assist in moving him from his residence in Ohio to the institution. Thus it was that Mr. Tucker became an early factor in the education of Randolph county. Mr. Tucker's influence was always for the best and he succeeded in building up an institution that was known far and near, as one of the very best. It attracted attention, not only throughout this county, but as far east as the New England states; in fact, the success of the institution was due more to Mr. Tucker than to any other one man. We shall have more to say of him later on.

" 'At a general meeting of the contributors to the Union Literary Institute, held in Friends Meeting at Newport, Wayne County, tenth month, first, 1846, a report of the proceedings of the board of managers the past year was read, accompanied by an essay of a constitution for the government of the institution.'

"The earnestness with which the managers considered their work is shown by the fact that the constitution was discussed all that day, and, desiring to give it due deliberation, 'adjourned until early candle light in tomorrow evening to re-discuss the matter.' The meeting assembled according to adjournment and considered and adopted their constitution...

"After their constitution was adopted they immediately planned to build a boarding house in connection with the school and appointed a committee, which presented the following plan:

" 'A frame house with two wings, each fifty feet long, one twenty-six and the other thirty feet long and two stories high.'

"The building was completed in a short time and was placed under the charge of the superintendent of the school.

"Naturally rules were necessary for the control of the students who made their homes in this building. We are informed by Mr. Bass, of that community, that the second story had the sleeping apartments on each side of a long hall which went through the entire building. The girls occupied the rooms on one side of the hall and the boys' rooms on the other side. This made the matter of discipline somewhat of a difficult one and Mr. and Mrs. Tucker, who had charge of this building for a great many years, proved themselves equal to all needs.

"The institution was supported from the income of the land which had been donated and from donations made to solicitors or agents for the institution. The board had its regularly authorized agents, who traveled through the entire United States soliciting aid for the institution. These agents made claim, and truthfully so, that the institution was primarily in the interest of the children of slaves or ex-slaves and maintained as a philanthropic institution for these people.

"Statements as to the financial condition were published annually in such papers as the Pre-territorial Sentinel, Cincinnati Weekly Globe, Rochester, N.Y. North Star and now and then a Boston paper.

"The solicitors received ten per cent of the amount collected for their services. All kinds of donations were acceptable and the records show such donations as 'one day's work', 'one horse collar', 'one steel trap', 'five pounds coffee', 'six pounds sugar', 'fifty pounds flour', 'four bushels wheat', and in fact most any kind of articles that could be used in the institution.

"The success of the school was for a long time very marked as many as ninety pupils at one time being in attendance. As we have said before the success of the Institution was largely due to the individuality of Ebenezer Tucker. The school lost in attendance very rapidly upon his removal in 1850 and regained somewhat of its former prestige upon his return in 1873. Prof. Tucker, however, was never able to put the school upon a very solid foundation after his return. The spirit of giving had given way to the spirit of receiving. The old records show the time, money and services were always donated but later records show that the trustees, managers and all others who performed services for the Institution demanded and received pay for the same.

"The Institution rapidly deteriorated and it soon became necessary to support the school partially by public funds. Politics entered into the control of the Institution. The Indiana and Ohio members became antagonistic, each trying to gain control of the Institution. The Indiana side finally gained control. The Ohio contingency brought suit to gain control of the Institution. The case was taken to Wayne county for trial which resulted in the Courts assuming control and appointing thirteen Trustees for the management of the Institution. The land had been sold and the proceeds squandered. The Board of Trustees were able to re-purchase a part of the land and the Institution now owns one hundred ninety-three acres.

"While they were undergoing this it became necessary to build a new barn, new house, new fences and to do a great deal. This completely exhausted all resources and the township was compelled to assume control of the school. This they did by maintaining a district school in the 'seminary building' until 1910. That year the trustees found that they had nothing to maintain the school so the next year, 1911, they had enough money to pay a portion of the expenses. School, however, had in the meantime, been abandoned because only eight colored pupils remained in the district.

"At this time, 1914, the trustees of the Institution transport the children of this school to the Spartanburg consolidated school."

Prof. Tucker in his history of Randolph county has the following to say concerning this school:

"After some years of pioneer school work, a new aid to education arose in the county in the shape of the Union Literary Institute, near Spartanburg, and literally 'in the woods'. There was the green stump of a huge oak, four feet through, not ten feet from the school room door; and the immense tree trunk lay there, prostrate, just as it fell, with its huge body for the children to run on, and to play over and across. And the boarding house stood above several green stumps, to make room for the house.

"Prof. Tucker, its first principal, and his goods, had been brought from Central Ohio, 160 miles, in big open wagons, by two teamsters from Wayne County, Ind., who went clear through by land to bring the young professor, his wife and their infant child, and his few household goods, all lonely and solitary, into the Indiana woods; and to that hewed-log schoolhouse in the forest, and to the boarding house, made of timbers cut and hewed wholly from the green woods, with home-shaved shingles and studding split, like rails, from a tree, with rafters and sleepers and joists all hewed from logs, made ready with the broad-ax, the Hoosier and the Buckeye

lads and lasses began to come; and, as years rolled, they still more and more, and, during eight years and more, nearly five hundred persons from many counties and several states were at some time members of the institute.

"And as those days come up in memory, and the picture of those old-time scenes is renewed, the question presses, why did those young men and maidens flock into that boarding house, working for their daily food, and living almost literally on bread and water at that? And the more one thinks, the more the wonder grows. Why did they come? But come they did, and for eight long, but happy and fruitful years, did the work of that school go on, under the shadow of the wilderness, till, from sheer exhaustion, the professor gave up his task, and pushed still farther west upon the untrodden prairie, feeling that not for the best farm in the west would he repeat the labors of those eight years, since he felt literally worn out. And well he might be. For months his days were spent thus: 'One recitation at home before breakfast; at 7 a.m. algebra and geometry before school; at 8 p.m., school began, and classes recited solid, without intermission, till 12 or 12:30; school 1 p.m., and recitations solid again till 6 p.m., sometimes two at once; and then at home, through the evening, till 9 p.m., classes in his own room, making fully twelve hours of solid teaching every day. This labor went on day after day and night after night for months and months. Not seldom would two classes come forward at once and both would be put through their 'paces' at the same time. It was once said of him by a friend that he could hear three classes explain a problem in algebra and read the newspaper all at the same time. This, of course, was a terrible exaggeration, but the labor undergone during some of those years in that forest college was 'fearful'. These lines are written today not in the least by way of boasting, but simply to give the present generation some faint idea of the way in which were laid, in days gone by, the foundations of knowledge and wisdom in the Randolph woods. But the years fled apace, and the last came, and the farewell word was spoken, and that dear old spot was left to the care of other men; and those pioneer days are gone, and cabins and hewed-log buildings are used as schoolhouses no more. And the teacher of today may be glad that it is so, yet he may beware not to despise those low and humble beginnings, for truly, unless those old things had been in those years long ago when this whole region was a wilderness, the present happy and better times could never have come to pass. The change, indeed, is wondrous; from a rude log cabin, with rough puncheon floor and split-pole seats, with greased-paper cracks for light, puncheon desks against the wall, and huge fire-places, with heaps of wood piled on, sled length, and roaring in full blaze on the hearth, and $7 a month, to the comforts and even luxuries of today, with the princely wages that now prevail. Forty years ago, it was no uncommon thing for a teacher to go to his school-room by sun-up, and to begin to teach, even at that early hour, those who were already in waiting to take up the labors of the day. Eight hours were the regular and expected time, and that whole time had to be spent, and not seldom, ten, and even twelve hours were put in each day in the work of the school-room

"Established by munifence, chiefly, of some anti-slavery friends, and managed by a board chosen from several religious denominations, and of both colors, race prejudice and class favoritism have been utterly banished from its walls. Even the distinction of sex, on which if founded, throughout the land, so widely varying systems and methods of training, made no difference here. Whatever a boy had to do, that a girl had to do. And the same practice the same instructor has maintained through more than forty years of his life, spent in the business of teaching. His motto was and is, 'Give to each and all the best possible chance, and let each make the most and highest that he can.'

"In place of the hewed-log house, built among the green stumps, now stands a comfortable, sightly brick edifice, that, for five and twenty years, has opened its doors, with no warmer nor more kindly welcome, indeed, than did its predecessor in previous years, yet gladly and freely, to receive the youth of all colors and conditions, both from near and from far, inviting them, without prejudice and without distinction, to partake, without money and without price, of all the riches of knowledge that it has to offer.

"Prof. Tucker left the institution in 1854, returning, however, in 1873 and remaining till 1879. After being under the management of various instructors - Messrs. Parker, Housh, Bagby, Smothers and others - the school was for a time mostly intermitted, and the chief part of the landed estate sold, the proceeds being vested in a fund, the income of which has been and is to be expended in maintaining the school. Some of the land sold has come back into possession of the institution, and they own at the present time forty acres, with the schoolhouse, teacher's dwelling and a farm residence.

Union Literary Institute

"The trustees of the institution originally were Daniel Hill, John H. Bond, John Randle, John Clemens and Nathan Thomas, and besides these William Beard, William Peacock, Richard Robbins, William H. McKown, Reuben Goens, Ebenezer Tucker, Jesse Okey.

"The school has a charter from the State of Indiana, vesting the property in five trustees. The constitution of the company provides for a board of thirteen directors, five of whom are the five trustees, and eight more are chosen by the donors to the institution, four annually, to hold for two years, and till their successors are elected and qualified.' "

Many people of color went on to very successful lives after attending school at the Institute. One such alumnus was Joseph Lowery Johnson, born 1874 in Washington

township. He taught in Darke County schools, practiced medicine, was appointed Minister Resident and Consul-General to Liberia 1918-1922 for the state department, and is listed in *Who's Who in America.*

"A trusteeship was established to control the finances, but even so, by 1910, it was no longer economically feasible to maintain the premises for the remaining eight students. Shortly after, it was consolidated into the Spartanburg school system and Union Literary Institute closed its doors.

"However, its heritage was kept alive. Minority students today are able to attend college on loan grants from the income of the original investments made by those farsighted people 136 years ago.

"After the school closed, and a couple of court cases later, the property was sold and the proceeds put into a trust, administered by five trustees.

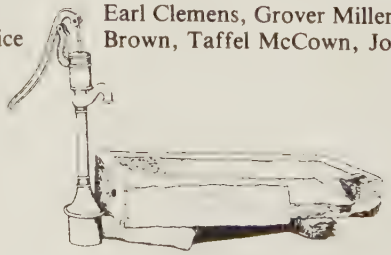
"The sale proceeds were invested and the income is loaned to needy students. Upon their graduations, they are to repay the loans at minimal interest. That accrued income is used for re-loaning." (*"The Muncie Star"*, August 30, 1981)

Palestine High School - 1911

Row one, left to right: Luvera Stover, Lenore Wilcox, Marie Dill, Cecile Jessop, Elsie Baker, Nelle Epps, Gussie (Goens), Nellie Tucker, Anna Mae Clemens, Adavier Wilcox, Lottie Metzcar, Erma Mason.

Row two: George Baker, Jesse Rush, Chester Arnette, Eunice Wilcox, Lesta Amett, Grace Jefferis, Merle Jefferis, Willard Clapp, Ruben Sellman.

Row three: Orville Teaford, Charles Bollinger, Chester Goens, Earl Clemens, Grover Miller, Merl Epps, Izetta Simpson, Marshall Brown, Taffel McCown, Joe Bass, Carl Jefferis.



Chapter VII
Health & Medicine

Life was simpler a hundred years ago, and many of us may dream of returning to that simpler life; but we would not want to turn back the progress in health that has taken place in those hundred years. The pioneers suffered greatly from diseases now more easily controlled and better understood. Families often lost many of their members from these early diseases. Today names of several of these diseases are forgotten or rare: milk sickness, consumption, quincy, cholera, flux, inflammation of the bowels, biliousness, diptheria.

"It was not all sunshine in the Wagner household, for the winter of 1885 and 1886 brought an epidemic of typhoid fever to the community. Our family was no exception. How awful to think about, and as yet we had not learned the need of sanitation. Wells were contaminated with typhoid germs. Five of our family became afflicted. Mother and brother Frank died within a month. Life in the Wagner home never was the same. As a boy of ten, I well remember how the neighbors, folks from the church, and many others, came to console. We must try to live on, but what is home without a Mother. The new house that had been built only a few years seemed empty." ("Wagner Family History" E.T. Wagner)

"Of all the diseases we used to fear," said Mrs. Malinda Wilcox, "typhoid fever was the worst. Now auto accidents take more lives than did the fever. Palestine once supported four doctors - Tennell, Sater, Rush, and Calderwood; now we get along without any, trusting to Greenville physicians to cure our ills." ("Darke Co. Pioneer Boasts Fine Memory" newspaper clipping)

In sickness, German township people had to look to themselves for comfort and care. Excerpts from page 132 of one of J.G. Norris's early store ledgers, for the dates from August 8 to September 2, 1865, shows that the German Township Trustees bought quite a lot of medicine for Mrs. Howsel, Mrs. Burden, S.A. Stokes, Lucinda Stokes, R. Mace, and Deliah Dorman.

The rest of this chapter draws together information showing the role played in community health care by the horse and buggy doctor, medicine shows, and conjurers.

Small Pox Epidemic

Early township treasurer's records give a look back at a local epidemic of small pox in the late 1800's.

From township treasurer's records 1893:

10/ 7/1893 Philip Wade	Guarding Small-pox	12.75
10/ 7/1893 George Bass	Guarding Small-pox	12.00
10/ 7/1893 Isaac Bass	Guarding Small-pox	9.00
10/ 7/1893 Sandy Bass	Guarding Small-pox	4.00
10/ 7/1893 E.E. McGown	Guarding Small-pox	4.00
10/ 7/1893 Clarkson Bass	Guarding Small-pox	1.50
10/ 7/1893 J.H. Bush	Services as Health Officer	25.00
10/13/1893 J.H. Bush	Services as Health Officer	12.00
10/20/1893 J.H. Clemens	Services as Health Officer	3.00
10/23/1893 A. Patterson	Guarding Small-pox	5.00
10/24/1893 Frank Jones	Wood for Small-pox	1.00
11/ 2/1893 J.H. Clemens	Services as Health-Officer	2.25
11/ 2/1893 D.F. Aukerman	Tin for guard-tent	.25
11/ 2/1893 Fred Smith	Digging grave for Richard Bass	3.00
11/ 2/1893 Robt. Pickens	Lime for burying purposes	.40
11/ 2/1893 Wm. Tucker	Guarding Small-pox	6.00
11/ 9/1893 Ed. Lamb	Wood for Small-pox guards	2.00
11/18/1893 Eli Overman	Guarding Small-pox	19.50
11/18/1893 J.B. Culbertson	Guarding Small-pox	56.00
11/27/1893 S.H. Paxton	Carrying Small-pox provisions wood & c.	19.00
11/27/1893 F.P. Harding	Hauling coffin for Chas. Bass	3.00
11/27/1893 Lewis Woods	Guarding Small-pox	62.00
11/27/1893 J.B. Collestue	Guarding Small-pox	6.00
11/27/1893 J.F. Michael	Sulphur, White-wash Brush & c.	3.25
11/27/1893 W.E. Clapp & Bro.	Goods for Bass family	3.04
11/27/1893 Frank Jones	Wood for Small-pox guards	1.00
11/27/1893 E.J. Lamb	Wood for Small-pox guards	1.25
11/27/1893 James Smith	Hauling tent and fixtures for guards	.75
11/27/1893 W.H. Matchet	Prof. call on Bass family	10.00
11/27/1893 Hall Bro.	Vaccination Points	9.40
11/27/1893 Jacob Bass	Hauling water for Bass family	4.20
12/ 1/1893 A.J. Patterson	Nurse at Bass family	24.00
12/ 8/1893 Rob. Davidson	Corn-meal for Bass family	.50
12/ 8/1893 J.E. Rush	Goods for Bass family	5.25
12/ 8/1893 J.F. Michael	Goods for Bass family	4.00
12/11/1893 Geo. J. Martz	Services as Health Officer	200.00
12/16/1893 Eli Burkebile	Hauling box & coffin for R. Bass	1.00
12/30/1893 P. Bachman	Clothes for Bass family	23.15
1/ 6/1894 John W. Wade	Goods for Bass family	5.16
1/ 6/1894 D.C. Wilt	Meat for Bass family	1.68
1/ 6/1894 W.E. Clapp	Goods for Dora Clemens	1.54
1/ 6/1894 Chas. Coston	Wood & appraising Bass property	4.25
1/ 4/1894 M.P. Simison	Wood & appraising Bass property	.50
1/ 6/1894 J.B. Smith	Wood & appraising Bass property	.50
1/ 6/1894 J.W. Shively	Swearing appraisers for Bass property	1.00
1/20/1894 Geo. J. Martz	Services as Health Officer	169.00
4/ 2/1894 J.W. Clemens	Digging grave for R. Bass	1.50
5/26/1894 Fred Smith	Digging grave for R. Bass	1.50
5/31/1894 Elbert Bass	Goods burned	30.00

From page 264 of the clerk's records, "The following order was presented passed upon and order to Knox Martz -Rupe for Elbert Bass, for goods burned during small-pox epidemic, $30.00" (May 31, 1894)

Medicine Shows

Several traveling medicine shows traveled through Palestine in times gone by, and would stop long enough to entertain with their shows and sell their medicine.

Croppy Harding recalls the medicine shows that traveled by horses and wagons, pitched tents, and put on their show under the light of keresene lamps. They camped on the 'commons' at the end of Cherry Street between the parsonage and the other house, just north of the intersection with Second Cross Street. They usually stayed three days.

In the fall and winter some would put on medicine shows in the K of P Building. They may have had an advance man as there were usually posters advertising the coming show, and the word would get around.

Their medicine would cure anything but snakebites. Usually three to five people would put on a skit - act, sing, and play an instrument, perhaps a guitar, piano, banjo, or fiddle.

They cooked their meals up in the hall and always seemed to use an awful lot of water! At the show they sold different sized bottles of their medicine.

Omar Dill remembers one time when a medicine show set up under a cottonwood tree in front of the Universalist church. They had evening shows. Omar recalls one that gave away a doll.

Miss Adavier recalls magic tricks done with cards. Her father liked the medicine shows because he could get sarsaparilla at the shows.

Zean and Louise Teaford, and Omar and Beatrice Wilson recount the one medicine show which had a show tent on the old sawmill lot (where the elevator was). This show had a fighting bear. Anyone of the audience could challenge the bear to fight.

Omar remembers another show where Johnnie Jones wore old overalls on a pony. While bouncing around on the pony the overalls came off and one of the medicine show people put a barrel over him.

Helen Varvel ran one of the medicine shows that showed regularly in Palestine.

Horse & Buggy Doctor

Croppy Harding recalls doctors North, Cromley, Baker, Rush, and Wilson. Doc Wilson lived east of Gale Teaford's house.

These doctors maintained offices in their homes but most went to call in the homes of the ill. They drove their horse and buggy until the early teens when the Model T Fords came along. Doc Baker had the first Model T automobile. In the early nineteen hundreds, before Greenville had a hospital, Croppy recalls that people went to Richmond, Dayton, or Winchester hospitals, but not for routine illness. Croppy says in those days people went to the hospital to die.

O.P. Kimmel, M.D. Palestine - From three of Dr. Kimmel's account books, in the possession of Helen Graham, we can picture this horse and buggy doctor's duties from 1896 to 1900. Most of his accounts were for medicine or visits.

Oct. 2, 1896, J.C. Triester was credited with putting a bow in his buggy-top for $1.00; and June 3, 1898, L. P. Stahr did $1.00 worth of repairing to Dr. Kimmel's nets and whip, so we can picture the good doctor with his medical bag and ledgers riding in his buggy to visit the ill in the community.

His records show he made usually two to eight visits a day. He charged $1.00 or $1.25 for a visit, but as George Teaford finds out April 1, 1898, Dr. Kimmel charges 25¢ more for a night visit.

Dr. Kimmel did quite a bit of obstetric work, and this baby delivering service cost ranged from $2.50 to $7.00. There were also several occasions to dress wounds. In January 18, 1898, Eli Burkebile was charged $10.00 to adjust his fractured leg and arm. He received several follow-up treatments. This was probably the accident he had with the steam-engine flywheel that took him out of the threshing business. On a few occasions Dr. Kimmel assisted in surgery for "Charley" at a charge of ten to twenty-five dollars. September 6, 1898, Sam Lindamood was charged $5.00 to amputate a finger. Fifty cents was the charge to lance an absess.

Dr. Kimmel also extracted teeth, and F.P. Harding was charged twenty-five cents February 8, 1896 to extract a tooth for his wife Elsie. The ledgers also show Dr. Kimmel treated for cattarrhal (inflamation of mucous membrane in nose or throat), and charged $5.00 for tapping a chest. On one occasion in 1899, he sewed a wound on a colt for Charles Stover for $1.00. March 18, 1899, Harvey Hill was charged forty cents for chloroform, $1.00 for an atomizer, and twenty-five cents for croup medicine.

Much of his account was paid in cash, but he also showed credits for a wide variety of items: butter, ½ bushel beans, milk, 10 yards carpet, sewing, cleaning house, 1 gallon molasses, 2 gallon maple molasses, ½ dozen brooms, blacksmithing, corn, hay, 20 quarts strawberries, straw, chickens, honey, oats, plums, eggs, repairing clock, 165# hog, gooseberry plants, 6 lbs. mutton, wood table, safe, hauling lumber, 3 pecks pears, 1 bushel peaches, lard, beef, killing hog, sawbuck, dressing saw, plowing lot, sod, labor, sweet potato plants. While many of these credits in his account book were for medical services, some also were probably things used by the good doctor for his trade.

Conjuring and Faithhealing

Folk medicine was a part of the health care in German Township, that many residents still recall.

Frank Baker stated that his Grandad Crumrine, who used to run a grist mill in Preble County, conjured locally for aerisipilis. Aerisipilis was a skin disease, and conjuring involved a secret, faith-healing technique that could be passed from male to female or female to male, but never among the same sex or the powers would be lost. Crumrine lived south of Baker Store.

Zean Teaford recalls his mother Elsie was treated for Aerisipilis by Crumrine.

Crumrine passed his knowledge to his daughter, Cassie Miller who lived on Route 36 east of Baker Store. It is thought she could only conjure by a certain sign of the moon. She took the patient outdoors on her front porch

where, presumably, she could see the moon, she broke off a twig from a bush, and mumbled the secret words.

Cassie may have passed this on to Irvin Hollinger, who taught Lillie Schlecty how to blow fire and heal Aerisipilis.

When Adavier Wilcox Ross was ten or eleven, she had a growth on her face that the doctor could not halt. She had to wear a black veil. One day she was at King's sale, when an elderly lady approached her and asked why she wore the veil. Miss Adavier told her. This lady's name was Mrs. Apple. She told Adavier to ask her mother for a 25¢ piece. Mrs. Apple wet her fingers and went around the quarter three times then around one of the growths on Adavier's face. She wet her fingers again and went around the edge of the quarter three times with her finger then around another circle on Adavier's face. She kept this up until she had circled each spot on Adavier's face. Mrs. Apple told her to go play and see her again before she went home. When Adavier returned Mrs. Apple returned the quarter and told her the growth would go away, and to just keep thinking it'll go away. It did.

Miss Adavier also recalls that Elizabeth Wilcox could measure for flesh decay and blow fire. Elizabeth passed this talent to Marcus Wilcox, and he later to Leslie Clapp.

Jesse Mikesell recalls butchering hogs at Delli Runner's west of Palestine in the 1950's, when Dick Mikesell got a bad grease burn on his hand. Ray Bruner took Dick into the corner and blew the fire out. The hand never blistered. Some people would circle a wet finger around the burn three times and cite words. Eli Eley east of New Madison used a silk string to blow fire.

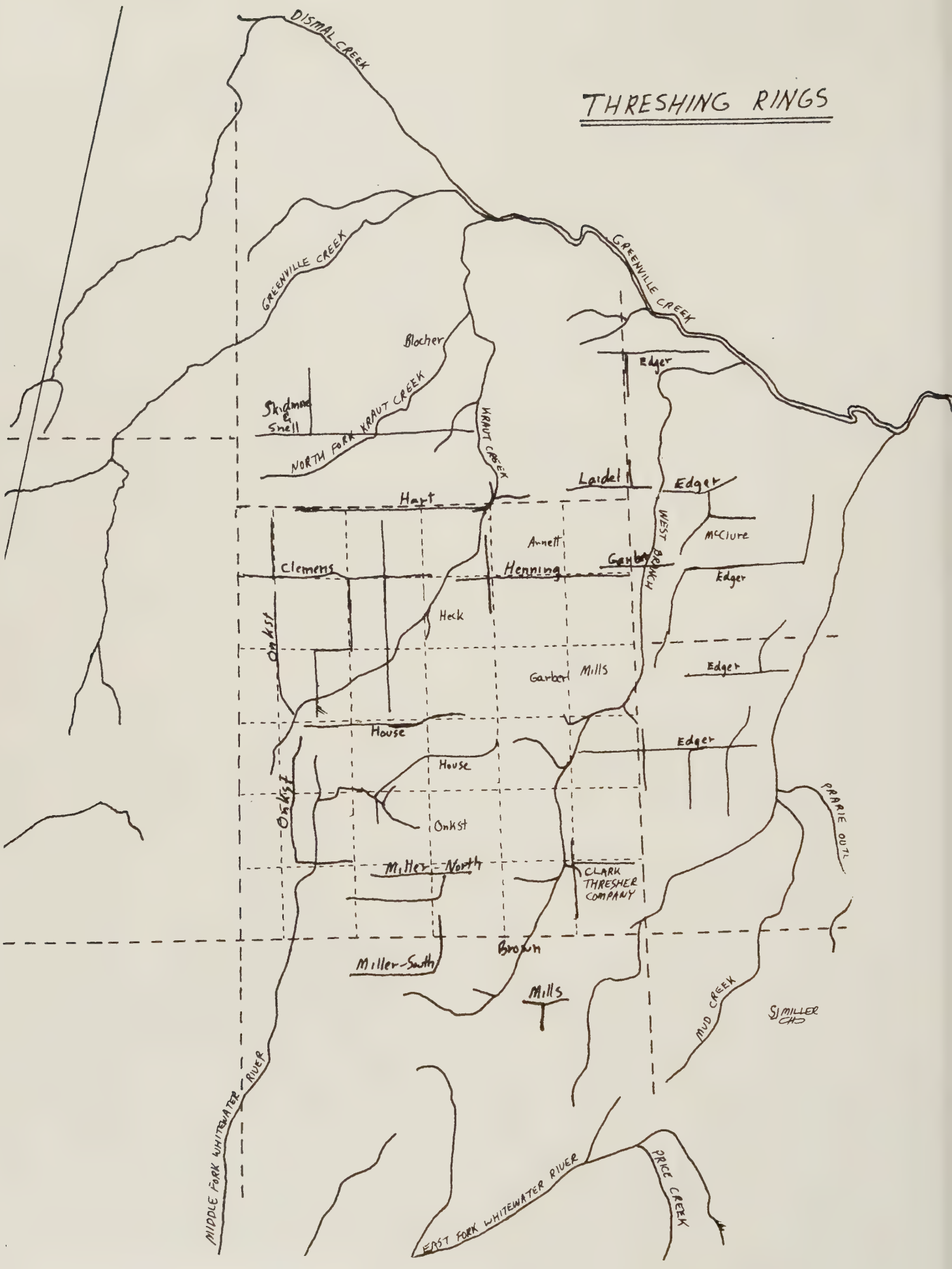
Charlie Miller's old Bible contains the words to blow fire from a burn: "Come thee angels from the North, and turn this fire into fast for hell, and in the name of God the Father the Son and Holy Ghost. Amen."

Different texts from the Bible were used for different ailments: hanker sore, blow fire, aerisipilis, stop blood, etc.

Omar Dill relates that Levi Wood was a local spiritualist. He held seances, and people from Indiana and all over would come. Omar once had a wart on his foot, and Levi said, "Let me take a look at that some time." Omar said, "How about now", but Levi said, "Not now". The next time Omar looked at his foot, the wart was gone.

Medicine Inventory - The following medicines are in J.G. Norris's inventory about 1864, as found on pages 275 and 276 of his store ledger.

Dr. Wisters Balsam Wild Cherry, 23 bottles
Dr. Richardson' sherry wine, 18 bottles, 75¢ bot.
Radways R.R.R., 45 bottles
Radways Ren Guating Resoluent, 23 pills
Dr. Stokes Liniment, 8 bot.
Dr. Weavers Salt Rheum, 20 bot.
Dr. Weavers Canker & Salts Rd. Syrup, 9 bot.
Perry Davis & Son Pain Killer, 12 bots., 25¢
Perry Davis & Son Pain Killer 3 bots., 50¢
Dr. Prodhomme's Enterocyceon, 6
Dr. Franciskis Headach drops
Mrs. Coe's Women Friends, 2 bottles
Dr. Harts Balsom, 1 bot., 25¢
Dr. Harts Pills, 11 bot.
Hiatts com. syrup, 6 bot, 25¢ or 6 bot., 50¢
Norris condition Powder
Sloans condition powder
Jones Amer. cholagangr, 8 bots.
Hooflimers Bral. cor., 9 bots.
Dr. Trasks Mag. ointment, 7 bots, 40¢ or 9 bots. 25¢
Tuckers Agne Bal., 20 bottles
Allens Lung Balsom, 6
Hoovers Rat Killer, 15 bot.
Ransoms Hive syrup, 12 bots
Femmors Cough mixture, 5 bots, 50¢ or 10 bots, 25¢
Barnerers Pills
Porwers Plasters
Scovills Com. Sarsaparrler (Sarsaparilla)
Dr. Bakers Paine Panecca, 7 bots., $1.00; 13 @ 50¢; 21 @ 25¢
Roback's Blood Purifier, 18 large, 10 small
Robueks Blood Pills, 45
Robuck's stomach bitters, 1 bot.
Ayers agne cure, 13 bots.
Ayers cherry pectoral, 12 bots.
Ayers Sarsaparila, 8 bots.
Ayers Pills, 20 box
Dr. Rogers Liver nort & Tar, 7 bot.
Dr. Rogers Worm syrup, 24 bots.
Dr. Motts Piles, 40 boxes
Dr. Grysotts yellow dock sarsa, 23 bots.
Dr. Jaynes Lignier Hair Dye, 8 boxes
Dr. Janes sanatrii Pills, 130 boxes
Dr. Jaynes Tonic Vermifuge, 57 bots.
Dr. Jaynes Hair Tonic, 7 bots.
Dr. Jaynes Carminutine Balsom 47 bots. (Carminative - medicine which expels gas from stomach & intestines).
Dr. Jaynes Liniment 14 bots.
Dr. Jaynes Expectorant 29 bots.
Dr. Jaynes Alterative 26 bots.
Dr. Jayne Agne mixture 7 bots.
Dr. Bennets Pills 35 boxes
Dr. E.L. Sanle & Co. soverign pills 21
Dr. E.L. Sanli & Co. sugar coated Pills 12 boxes
Branderth's Pills (D. Putman Rect) 48
Dr. Marse's Pills (Indian Root) 11
I.A. Gridley Vegetable Pills 39
Circus Sian Cars Oil 4 bots.


THRESHING RINGS
DISMAL CREEK
GREENVILLE CREEK
GREENVILLE CREEK
Blocher
Skidmore
Snell
NORTH FORK KRAUT CREEK
KRAUT CREEK
Edger
Laidel
Edger
Hart
WEST BRANCH
McClure
Annett
Clemens
Henning
Garber
Edger
Heck
Onkst
Garber Mills
Edger
House
Edger
House
Onkst
Onkst
PRAIRIE OUTL
Miller-North
CLARK THRESHER COMPANY
Brown
Miller-South
Mills
MUD CREEK
SJ MILLER CHD
MIDDLE FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
EAST FORK WHITEWATER RIVER
PRICE CREEK

Chapter VIII
Threshing

Threshing rings have long been an integral part of the history of Liberty township. Threshing grain by hand gave way to steam engines and separators by probably 1850 or 1860. Since that time, farm neighbors depended on one another to help each other when the wheat, oats, and rye was ready for harvest.

Ira Edger notes that people used to stack thresh or barn thresh. Farmers would build two big stacks, the separator would be put between the two stacks to thresh. Often the stacks wouldn't be threshed until late. This provided a straw stack in the winter, but may also have been due to the few number of threshers in the area.

Virgil Deeter notes that many of the old barns were built with the separator in mind, with a granary on one side of the 'threshold' and a large area on the other to store the wheat in shocks. The straw stack could be blown outside the barn. Many barns also had wooden floors which aided in sweeping up any spilled grain.

Threshing out of the field was a relatively new idea to this area in the 20's. Some of the smaller gas powered tractors and smaller separators became prominent, thus more farmers got engines and separators, and rings were started.

Often the ring was composed of twelve or fourteen farmers. Threshing required this many workers, and threshing this number of farms would not take too long to harvest.

Some threshers who had two rings would alternate which ring was harvested first each year. Threshing rings prevailed until combines came along in 1935/36. By the war years, when labor was more scarce, most farmers had converted to combines pretty quickly.

As the thresher went to each farm, that farm provided a boy to carry drinking water to the workers. The boy usually was paid 35-75¢ per day. Someone would run the engine, someone would watch the separator, someone the blower, someone the water wagon, two usually unloaded the bundles from the wagon into the separator, and the others loaded the wagons from the fields. One handling the team of horses, one on top the wagon to stack, the others pitching the bundles up with their long-handled, three tined pitchforks. The ladies would prepare a big meal at the farmer's home.

Some rings would get together after all the farms had been harvested, and have home-made ice-cream. There were also shredding rings for corn.

The earliest threshers Ira Edger could remember were his grandfather George Edger, Windmiller who lived toward Downings around Hollansburg, and Burkebile south of Palestine. These would have threshed in the late 1870's and 1880's.

Page 76 of J.G. Norris' ledger indicates Michael Lindamoot paid for part of his mill account by thrashing wheat the fall 1858.

Page 243 of the Norris Book indicates that Abraham Black thrashed in 1864. Black received $4.00 for cutting wheat, $6.00 cash for cutting flax, $5.00 cash for thrashing wheat, and $3.00 cash for thrashing flax.

These early records may indicate that Michael Lindamott and Abraham Black may have had early threshing machines in the township.

Frank Baker recalls that before Charlie Edger, Jap McClure was the first in that area to have a steam engine. Prior to these steam engines, a couple of portable steam engines were within two miles of Baker, including Albright's. Jap McClure had a Nicolas Shade steam engine.

Frank recounts that threshing grain was a long process before steam engines. The wheat was cradled. He recalls watching his grandfather Frank Baker cradle with ease, so wanted to try himself as a boy. On his first swipe, Frank ran

Harvesting at the Jefferis' farm.

the blade into the ground and broke two fingers. The cradler took about three swipes to get enough grain for a shock, depending on how thick the wheat was. Then a man would hold the grain under his arm and tie with wheat stalks, he would twist the tie once with one twist under and the bundle was tied. The wheat was either taken to the barn or stacked so as to turn water. Some flails were used on the threshing floor in the barn but often horses would be used to tramp the grain. A horse-powered windmill or fanning mill could be used to separate the grain and chaff.

Frank says that even after the reaper was in the area, many cradles were still used because of stumps in the fields.

The first steam engines had to be pulled with horses. The early threshing was done in the barns. Originally Frank says the straw was moved by a carrier, webbed conveyer, to stack the straw. Later blowers were part of the separator, and were used to stack the straw.

From E.T. Wagner's "Wagner Family History":

"Agriculture played an important part in that community in these early days. Much of the timber was disappearing to make possible the raising of crops.

"At this particular place in our story I want to introduce my Grandfather, 'Uncle Billy' as he was known far and near. He was a great lover of horses and only the best could be found in his stable. However, this was true of all the Wagner family. The land that had been cleared left an abundance of stumps which made it impossible to use only the crudest of farm implements. It is of special interest to describe some of the tools used at harvest time. Already the sickle had been discarded for the grain cradle. Soon we find Grandfather being interested in a reaper that was drawn with horses. What an improvement to see this reaper cut the grain and place it in piles for the men who followed the reaper and bind in sheaves. Make a double band young man and try your hand. But the entire affair is today one of the lost arts. But I am sure you would like to know how the grain was threshed after it was bound into sheaves and well dried. An old time flail was used and sometimes the horses tramped the grain out on the old time threshing floor.

"Grandfather purchased a threshing machine somewhere. As a lad of a few summers I can remember the day Uncle Billy Wagner would start his new contraption. It took twelve good horses to operate a tumbling rod that connected to the threshing machine. The grain was fed into a cylinder. This machine was called a 'Chaff Piler' which meant that it did not separate the chaff from the wheat. It was piled on the threshing floor to be later run through the fanning mill which made it ready for market.

"It was a big day when all was made ready and folks came from many miles to see what it was all about. To everyone's amazement, the 'contraption' worked. A new era had rolled around, and the first 75 years on the old Wagner farm saw many new and worthwhile improvements.

"I am sure you would like to know about the first threshing machine which was on the old Wagner farm. Twelve good horses were hitched to this machine. Grandfather was never so happy as when he stepped on that platform, whip in hand, to start these horses. Every trace must be stretched tight to start that big load. Needless to say it was much of a success and the threshing machine was used for many years to come. Some years later a portable steam engine was used and the old 'horse power machine' was delegated to the scrap heap.

"Father was also a lover of horses and many times his five sons went to the field with five teams to plow. Very unusual indeed, and people stopped along the road to see that operation. Father was known as one of the progressive farmers of the county and interested in modern equipment.

"A few self binders had been purchased in the county. This was of special interest and in 1883, Father bought the first self-binder in the entire community. As a lad of a few summers, I well remember that two men from the factory came to assemble that rather clumsy looking machine in the bank barn floor. When completed we boys must see if it would work, and to amuse ourselves and the neighbors that came to look, got sheaves of oats from the loft above and placed on the platform to see it bind. An old gentleman was heard to say, 'Yep, it will work on the barn floor, but by golly, she won't work in the field.' But, it did work, much to the approval of all who came to see it in the field, and continued for many years to come."

George, Charles, Ira Edger - Ira Edger succeeded his father Charles and his grandfather George Edger in steam threshing. George Edger threshed around New Madison, toward Hollansburg, and around Palestine. George and Mike Lindamood started out threshing together. They had a traction engine. George threshed in the 1870's and early 1880's. Once around Hollansburg he couldn't get the engine across a bridge, so had to take down a rail fence to cross the stream.

Charles Edger threshed probably since 1880. Charles had a clover huller which he pulled behind his outfit. Once when returning home up a steep hill, the clover huller came loose, rolled downhill over a bridge, made a turn, went through an open gate, and came to rest in a field.

Ira had a 3060 Altman Taylor, an 1836 International gas tractor, and later a 3245 Huber tractor and a 3050 Huber separator. He ran two regular rings, also some areas that were not rings, and threshed through the winter months for farmers who had put their wheat up in the barn. He threshed out of the barn for Noe and Tom Royer, and in the winter out of the barn for Ott Rank's five or six farms.

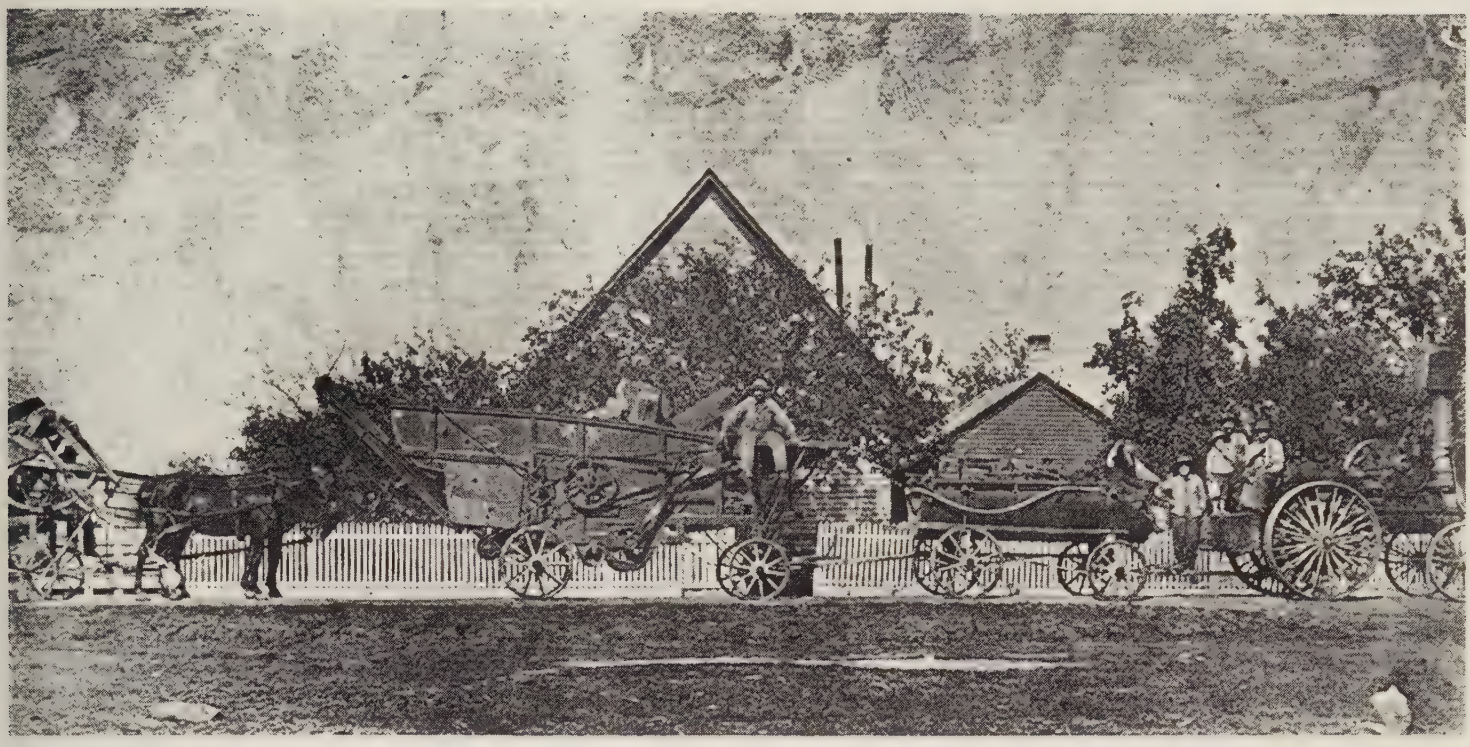
Ira threshed every month except May, as some farmers would put their wheat bundles in the barn, and run it through the separator in winter months. Ira threshed rye for 9¢/bu., wheat 7½¢/bu., and oats 4¢/bu. Through the depression he harvested wheat for 6¢/bu. and oats 3¢/bu. Ira started threshing the last day in June each year.

Dininger Rd. ring - This ring included Virgil Fowble, Bill Clapp, Carl Dininger, Hallie Dininger, Bill Harter, Josh Fowble, Grover Miller, Vetus Dininger, Jake Hinder (Earl Smith's farm), Harry McClure, and sometimes Dave Keener.

Rhoades ring - This ring included Ray Marshall, Linder, George Folkerth, John Shell, Glen Curtis, Earl Teaford, Steve Rhoades, George Rhoades, Curt Rhoades, Harry Neff, Henry Murray, Knick, Ro Mong, Baker (old Brown place), and Walter Clapp.

Wildcat Road area - Ira threshed for George Edger, Clarence Rhoades, and Andy O'Dell.

Clark's Station area - Ira threshed for Tom Troutman, Irvin Baker, and James Lorin.



Threshing outfit: Willie Edger (dress) held by Sam Lindamood. Irv Riegle (boy, Charles Edger also on engine). Charlie Hollinger on tongue, George Edger (beard), Charlie Dalrymple on hand feed thresher, Mike Lindamood on straw carrier. Straw carrier used to extend from back of thresher before threshers had blowers. In front of George Edger's house on New Madison-Coletown Road where Beech Holland later lived. All Gaar Scott including 11 horse engine.

This picture was taken July 1899 by Robert Dalrymple at Baker Store. On the Engine are Charles Edger and Sam Lindamood. Del Lindamood and Charles Dalrymple are on the seperator. The engine is a 13 horse Gaar Scott made in Richmond, pulling a 33 inch hand-feed Gaar Scott seperator. Notice the rail fence. To the extreme right of the picture can be seen the edge of Baker Store. The building immediately behind the store is the band hall. Behind the band hall is the building that served as both the blacksmith shop and the wagon shop.

Home area - Around his home, Ira threshed for George McClain, Roy Petersime, Herschel Wagner, Ron Hicks, Omer Hicks, Beisner, Laurence Warner, Melvin Spencer, Vern Hawkey, Merl Heiston, and Jake Fisher.

36 area - Ira threshed for Harry Shively, Dave Wise, Hezekiah Rife, Ira Rife, Virgil Kerst, Brumbaugh farm, Winfield Albright, Ed Marsh, Wilbur Cothran, Wilbur Albright, Paul Albright, Voll Bryson.

Charlie Garber, Danny Garber - Charles Garber and Charles Edger started out together, but after lightning struck Edger's barn, Edger sold out the engine to Charlie Garber. Charlie ran a Gaar Scott 16 steam engine with a 32 inch Gaar Scott separator. Later he got an Altman-Taylor thresher. His ring included Dininger, Fitzwater, Harsh, Mills, Lonnie Nogle, Shultz, Bakers, Albrights, Harry Neff.

Charlie sold his equipment to Clark Thresher Company in 1919, but in 1920 he bought a new Altman Taylor and 3656 separator. Ira Edger went back to working for Charlie then. Charlie Garber threshed until about 1935/36. He also had a clover huller and a corn shucker.

Danny Garber started threshing about 1927-28. Danny had a Huber super 4 tractor and a 3050 Baker separator. Danny threshed around where he now lives for Vern Hawkey and various others. He also ran a ring around Tampico: Ivan Saylor, Homer McClain, Charlie Holland, Ray Baker, Alba Price (where Dellie Runner's widow lives). He also had a ring in the SE corner of Neave township a year or two after Homer McClain moved down there.

Threshing at the Woods Farm 1932. Leo Rush farmed for Tom Wenrick, and the truck may be Herschel Ross's and the thresher may be Garber's.

Clark Thresher Company - The Clark's Station area bought out Charlie Garber in 1919. The company had Bill Wilt president, Irv Riegle sec./treas. Ed "Bunk" Downing was the handyman and took care of fuel, running, etc.

The company bought Garber's Altman Taylor 2550 engine, 3250 separator, Birdsall clover huller, Rosenthal cornhusker, silo filler, and a Ford Model "T" pick-up.

The Clark Threshing company hired Ira Edger to run the engine for $5 a day. Irv Riegle and Charles Edger helped with the separator for two years. Orla and Andy Riegle were in the Clark ring.

Ike Miller - Isaac Miller had two rings. He ran a Case steam engine. Those in his north ring included Johnnie Mikesell, Jim Davis, Perry Eby, Clarence Wade, Willie Hollinger, Grover Miller, Irvin Royer, Bert Hiatt, Johnny Garrison, Sam Petry, Willie Rush, Harry Mikesell, and Ike Trimble.

Ira Edger recalls Ike had an 18 horse Huber engine. Willie Hollinger may have run this threshing ring after Ike died.

Eli Burkebile - One of the older threshers was Eli Burkebile. Miss Adavier recalls this ring in which her father Newt Wilcox, Perry Greendyke, Jim Aukerman, John Spencer, George Teaford, and Sam Kerst were in. Vern Brown followed Burkebile to this area, and then Joe Arnett.

"Eli Burkebile operated a threshing ring up until 1899 when an injury from being caught in a flywheel forced him to retire." (April 2, 1925 newspaper)

Preston Onkst - Preston had a steam engine, possibly a Baker. Those in his ring included John Keller, John Ross, Jess Owens, Guy Spencer, Bert Mikesell, and the farm where Gene Kelly now lives. Maze Clemens thinks that Preston came up Tampico Road to Stingley Road also.

Skidmore & Snell - Omar Skidmore and Elmer Snell worked together with a Rumley Advance steam engine and Advance separator. Later Bill Wentworth took over this ring with his steam outfit. This area was on 502 west of Sharpeye to Elm Hill School and north to Wildcat Road. Noah Warvel, Bill Reesor, Tommy Clapp, Gary Fodder, Ray Flory, and Max Carpenter were in this ring.

Ary - Harold Ary's folks lived where Ralph Hiatt lives, and undertook to start a threshing outfit for a couple years around 1916, 1917. Ira Edger thinks they had a Gaar-Scott.

Jap McClure - Jap McClure lived west of Greenville where Don Wion lives now. He had a Battle Creek engine made in Michigan in the 1890's.

Kurt Rhoades - Kurt Rhoades had a little hand feed agitator thresher that required someone to constantly be with it to fork the straw away.

Heck - Heck had a threshing outfit.

Elmer Stapleton - Elmer Stapleton had an 18 horse Huber engine.

Mable (Stapleton) Reck recalls the following in her father's ring: Ike, John, and Andy Miller. Later Ike Miller got an engine of his own. Armacost, Roberts, Woods, Ketring, Hiatt, George and Jeff Koontz, Teafords, Keener, and Arnett. In Elmer's later years, he threshed in the Bethel, Indiana area.

Milt Laidel - Milt Laidel used a gas tractor. Later Irv Slick bought a gas tractor. This ring included the farms of Ed Norris, William Smith, Elvie Shade, Jim Armacost, Murray Teaford (Reesor place), Ben Cole, John Deeter, Harry Craig, Web Manual (Carpenter place), and Olt Brothers

Elmer Stapleton's steam engine (1910).

(Eddie Howell's farm). Later this ring was taken over by T.T. House.

Al Henning - Al Henning ran a steam outfit. Ben Cole would almost always build the stack. This ring included Stanley Price, Jimmy Harsh, Jeff Koons, Earl House, Mowery, Cecil Snyder, Herbert Light, W.E.G. Jefferis, Henry Sellman, Lonnie Fogle, Ray Schwarner, Chester Arnett, and possibly Humphrey Mikesell. Al Henning originated this ring. Earl House later got a gas tractor and ran the ring. After their harvest, this ring would get together for home-made ice cream.

Thurman House - Thurman's dad bought a thresher about 1926. It was an International thresher and pulled with a John Deere 1527 Model D with cleats that had to be taken off or tear up the road. Thurman started out at 16 and his brother also helped to thresh. His dad bought the thresher because he didn't like having to wait to get the wheat threshed, so asked his two boys if they would run the outfit. Thurman's older brother worked the first couple of years.

Thurman worked several rings. He took over the area that Milt Laidel covered. He worked an area around the state line. He also worked an area west of Palestine, and one south of Palestine. Thurman followed George Stingley in one area about 1926.

The area west of Palestine included Fred Hiatt, Gale Teaford, George Harris, Bert Hiatt, and Rufe Hill. Mrs. Dellis Runner recalls the ring west of Palestine included Glenn Hiatt, George Harris, Dellis Runner, Ray Bruner, Herschel Cloyd, Fred Hiatt, and Minor Myers. His Anglin Road area included Gale Teaford, Nichols, O'Dell, Oscar Ullom, Chelsie Rush, Ralph Koons, Herschel Schlechty, and Greer.

Thurman had a Rosenthal shredder to shred fodder, but quit shredding and Stanley Price took over shredding. Thurman sold his thresher to Vern Brown.

Levi Blocher - The report of the 4th annual threshing of the Central Washington township thrashing ring for the year 1925 shows the following harvests. Levi Blocher was the thrasher and J.R. Halladay the time keeper. Levi Blocher July 22, 23, 27, 29, Aug. 4 harvested 65 acres of wheat, 925 bushels; oats 38 acres 2457 bushels; and oats 38 acres 2162 bushels.

Mark Wagner July 23, 24: wheat 12 acres 162 bushels, barley 13 acres 466 bushels, and oats 28 acres 1555 bushels.

Chester Hapner July 24, 25: oats 35 acres 1446 bushels and barley 5 acres 40 bushels.

Oscar Magill July 25: wheat 13 acres 145 bushels, and oats 10½ acres 481 bushels.

Thomas Brothers July 27, 30: wheat 10 acres 75 bushels and oats 25½ acres 1044 bushels.

Roy Stocker July 27: wheat 14 acres 183 bushels and oats 10 acres 501 bushels.

Leonard Resor July 27, 28: wheat 11½ acres 266 bushels and oats 8 acres 449 bushels.

Milford Stump July 28: wheat 28 acres 372 bushels and oats 13 acres 585 bushels.

Ralph Halladay July 29, 30: wheat 10 acres 1945 bushels and oats 31½ acres 1675 bushels.

Joe Arnett - Joe had two rings. He used two Reeves Cross Compound Indian 20 horse engines and a 32 x 52 Advance separator and a 32 x 56 Advance separator. He lived on the Schlecty farm and threshed in the northeast Liberty township and into southern Washington township up to Wildcat Road. Joe and his family moved to Palestine in 1908 or 1909 and farmed a few years before threshing. He started threshing the same time he started the saw mill in Palestine, but threshed into the 1930's after he had quit the saw mill. Joe also had an Altman Taylor clover huller and Advance 12 roll corn husker.

W.F. Flora Mills - Mills had a thresher separator he pulled with a Ford tractor in the northeastern area after Joe Arnett. In the early 1920's he threshed for a few local farmers including Fitzwater and Kerst. Zene Teaford pulled this separator later for himself and Fitzwaters.

Willie Mills - Before the Clark Thresher Company formed, Willie Mills threshed and Charlie Garber. Bill Wilt, Riegles, Bill Stump, and Clish in this area. Mills had a Baker steam tractor and later a Hart Parr tractor. His ring also included Gauby, Barnhart, Vietors, Cromwell, and Wilt.

Rob Clemens - Homer Ross says Rob Clemens bought a Swain Robinson steam engine from the Joe Ross Hardware store in Palestine. This steam engine used to be made in Richmond, where Swain Robinson still has a foundry. Rob is thought to have had a Huber separator.

In this large ring were Ed Lowdenslager (Richard Graham's farm), Haywood Collins, William Clemens, Hansford Paxton, Bides Bass, Charlie Causton, Fred Carpenter, Amos Carpenter, Jimmy Clemens, John Clemens, John Clemens Jr., Jess Ross, Jimmy McCown, Ray Holland, Charlie Holland, John Epps, Will Archie, Herschel Clemens, Zeb Bass, Albert Goens, Pattersons, Ed Bass, George Bass, George Newbauer, Rufus Goens, J.H. Clemens, Oliver Norton, Doug Goens, Ed Lamb, and Jake Burden.

" 'We used to work together back and forth all the time', (Maze) Clemens said. Used to be a ring of about 22 of us, making hay, filling the silo or shredding fodder. We would be about half and half (colored and white) around the table at meal time." (*Dayton Daily News,* Nov. 16, 1980)

Vern Brown's threshing outfit.

Maze recalls after the threshing was done, they would get together for ice cream. Someone in Indiana had a shredder, and there were 22 in this ring. Not as many had silos to fill.

Later Newt Goens got a Massey Harris to pull the separator. He operated the same time Rob Clemens was operating but Rob then quit. Then Cliff Burden ran awhile, and later Cliff Epps pulled and Maze Clemens ran the separator. These were the last to run the ring.

Maze recalls his dad was one of the first in the ãrea to get a tractor and a car. The car was about a 1914 Model "T" Ford. The first tractor was an old Sampson. Later they got a Fordson, cranked one day and would work the next.

Seward Hart - Seward Hart ran a steam outfit, possibly Baker, until about 1920. Ora Bowers followed him with a Baker steam engine. Then Walter Coach and Willard Hart, brothers-in-law, ran a Hart Parr gas together. This ring included William Jefferis, John Brinley, Chester Harter (Folkerth place), Keith Stephens, possibly Isaac Newbaur, John Tharp, Willard Fernsler, Jess Brumagen, Roy McClain, Harry Harter, Bermin Foreman, Ben Neff (Emerson Garbig's farm).

Keith Stephens did not recall Hart doing this area that much. He recalled Ora Bowers, then Fred Pickett. This area had Keith Stephens, Willard Fernsler, Earl Jefferis, John Brinley, Addie Harter, Harry Harter, Jess Bromagen, Roy Edwards, and the Pucketts. Keith thought Pres Onkst also may have done a little in this area.

Vern Brown - Vern ran two rings. He had a Hart-Parr gasoline tractor in which the engine sat cross-ways. Ben Cole worked with Vern. Vern bought an 18 Gaar Scott engine and Advance separator from Jim Royer in the Clark's Station area. Then Vern got a big Minneapolis tractor. Clyde Teaford worked for Vern awhile. Vern then got a Hart Paar followed by a 2236 International. Finally he had two Hart Paar engines and an International separator and a Baker separator. He also had a sawmill.

Vern threshed down Hollansburg-Sampson Road for Harry Worch, Nic Mills, Harry Barnhart, Irvin Hollinger, John Falknor, and where Raymond Hollinger lives. He also threshed for Zene Teaford, Worches, Brian Noggle, Farmers, Denzil Spencer, George Dixon, Koons, and Hiatts.

Barns

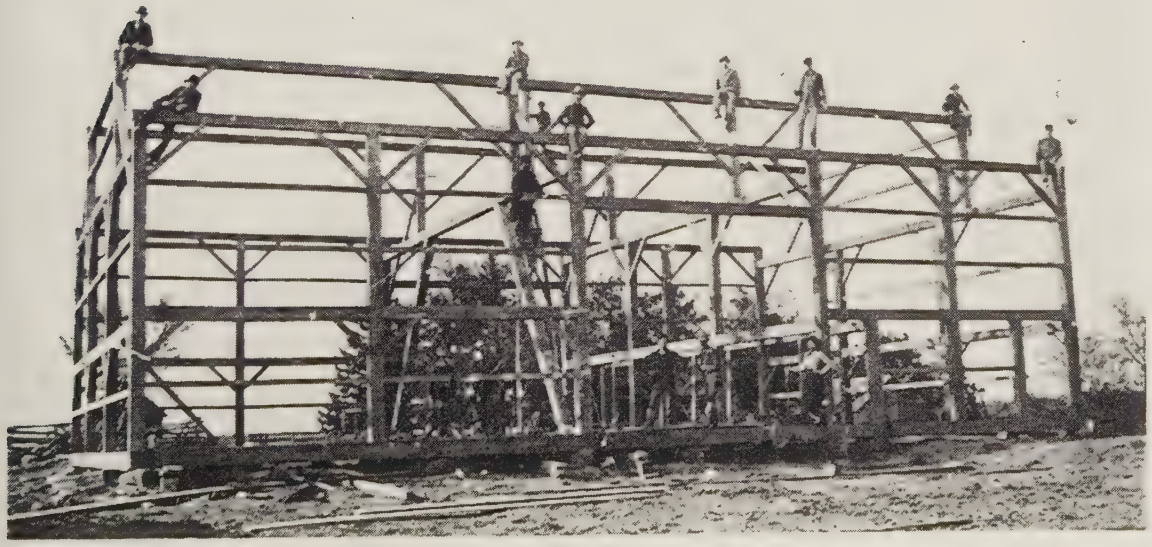
While many may be saddened by the passing of the one-room school because of its obvious historical significance, few may recognize the role of the barn in our community's history. No known log barns exist, but there are still some Pennsylvania or bank barns in the area. The bank barns are almost always built into a hill so that the mow floor is level with the hill top, or in some cases, a ramp provides the approach for wagons to the mow floor. The forebay, or overhang, extends to the leeward side to provide shelter to livestock.

The livestock are sheltered on the ground floor while the upper floor provides the work space to thresh the grain. Often a mow was on either side of the threshing floor, or threshold; one mow to store the unthreshed grain, often in sheaves, and the other mow for the straw after the grain had been threshed on the floor by flail or horses hooves. Both doors on either side of the threshing floor could be open for winnowing, separating the chaff from the grain. Graineries were also on the upper floor, and sometimes root cellars were below dug partially into the bank.

Spanish Tobacco raised 1909 - Harry Cole, Irvis Ankerman, Harry Aukerman.

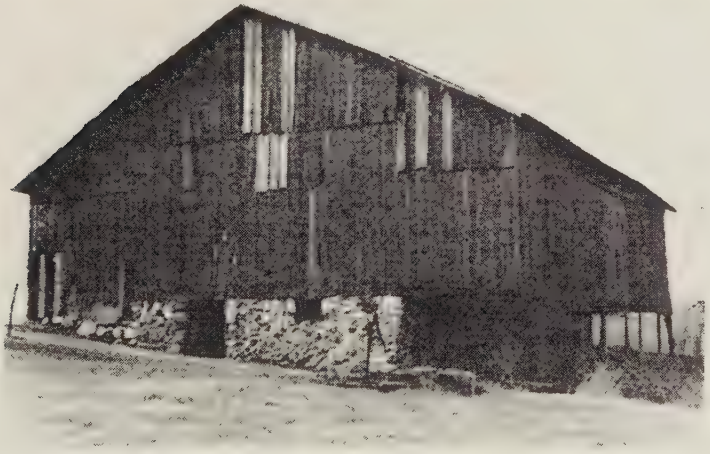
Charles Haines 1922 ditching Hiatt ditch section 16. Jess Ross farm.

1916 Barn - Irv, Orla, Sam, Chalmer Riegle.



Barn Raising, 1902
- at Oliver and Verna Perry's west of Palestine.

Hugh Armstrong Barn -Armstrong moved to German Township 1881 and died 1913. He raised shorthorn cattle and had several livestock auctions in this barn. The farm was later sold to Herschel Jefferis, Harley Monks, and Brian McCabe.

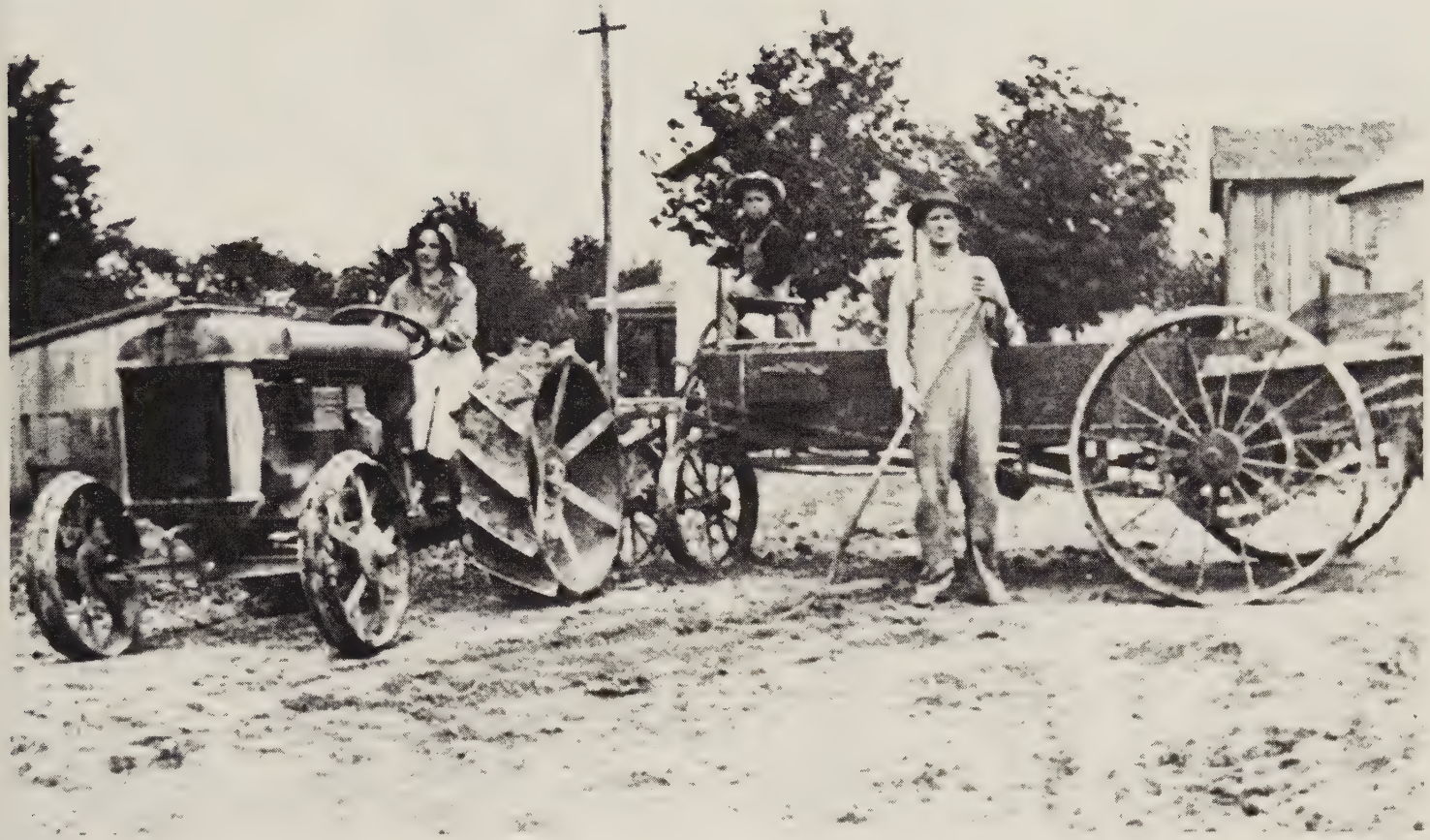


Jesse Woods Barn

Ralph Hiatt Barn

Folkerth Barn

George Miller Barn



Early Fordson - Many farmers like Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harter show here with son Willard, converted their horse-drawn implements to tractor hitched in the early 1920s. The Harters lived in the first house west of the Hillgrove-Southern Road on the Nashville Road.

Charlie Jefferis planting tobacco.

Grape Arbor

McCown House around 1907 - Dr. E.P. Clemens and Oliver Norton to extreme right.

Parent House

William Jones Home

Jonathan Teaford House

James Clark Home

CORRECTIONS

Longtown --founded in 1808.

Page 232—James McCowan house was on land owned by a Mr. Clemmens. It is possible that this is not the house of James McCowan.
The above information from –Roane Smothers
111 North Patterson Blvd.
Dayton, Ohio 45402.

Chapter IX
Homes

Michael Noggle Home - "On the farm which is the home of his son, George M., of this sketch, he erected, in 1868, the fine brick residence which is one of the most spacious and attractive country homes in this section." (1900 *History of Darke County,* pg. 664)

Rufus Goens Home - This home now owned by Otis Miller used to serve as a store and post office in the Longtown settlement.

James J. McCown Home - This beautiful brick now owned by Harold Goens. Many say that the house was built facing south because the old road originally was on the south side of this house. James McCown (1798-1887) built the brick house. Newt Goens later lived here.

Samuel Parent Home - This home now owned by Naomi Slick, is where Keith Rismiller lives. The old part of the house was probably built before 1875 by Samuel Parent. It was built over a large tree stump. It is hewed timber frame construction with huge logs below the house. The original plaster is 1½" thick. Naomi's parents bought from Manford Jacobs.

William Jones Home - This two story, two room log cabin is beside the Clemens cemetery. William Jones' grandfather moved the house, log by log, in 1904. The cabin was originally the Jacob Halderman cabin near the intersection of Stingley and Greenville-Palestine Road. Jacob Bass was a carpenter and had the logs laid out, but died that fall before completing the cabin. Neighbors came in to finish erecting the cabin for the widowed Catherine (Burton) Bass. Clay, lime, and sand was used for chinking.

Teaford Home - Duane Schlechty's live in this two story brick on the Anglin' Road. George Teaford owned this land in 1857, and by 1875 Jonathan Teaford had the property. The home was built by Jonathan Teaford.

The bricks for the house came from behind the house. Jonathan's twin brother, Barney (born 1825), lived in the pinned timber frame house that Ronnie Thomas now lives in. Barney Teaford built his house first. Twins Jonathan and Barney had one pocket book, as the story goes, but after Jonathan built his house about 1869, Barney and Jonathan's bank accounts were thereafter divided. Barney was mad at Jonathan for spending too much money on his new house.

James Clark House - Orla and Mary Riegle used to live here. When Sam Riegle, Orla's father, moved there in 1915, the house had a frame room with shed roof and a brick room on the original part of the house. Sam tore down these rooms. Orla says that the older ones in the area used to tell that the old cheese factory was in the brick room of the house. Jerry and Elaine Laux currently live here.

Rarick-Skidmore House - Daniel Rarick secured land from gov't, married Sarah Miller 1828. Lived in rude log structure. 1845 burned brick for house in which B.F. Skidmore used to live, house built 1846. Moved into house Jan. 1847. In new house one week when he was stricken ill and died. She was later married to Nathan Perry.

The following copied by R.W. VanDine 1-8-58 from material furnished by the Skidmore family.

"The brick used in constructing the house were made and burned on the farm where the house now stands.

"First the mud was tempered in a circular trench or pit about twenty feet in diameter. This trench was of sufficient width for a yoke of oxen to walk in; allowing them to be

Rarick House

driven in zigzag fashion, and not in a straight path. This would allow the mud in all parts of the trench to be evenly tempered. The trench was filled to the desired depth and the oxen were put to work, being driven over the entire surface of the trench until the mud was sufficiently tempered to be molded into brick. This done, the process was repeated until sufficient brick were made. After allowing them to dry and cure in the sun sufficiently they were put up in a suitable shape for burning, with arches about every four or five feet in the bottom in which to put the wood for burning, and were then burned until the desired color was obtained.

"While burning the brick, boulders of limestone were picked up from the fields and placed in with the brick and burned at the same time with which to mix the mortar, lay the brick and plaster the house. They thus had brick kiln and lime kiln both in one, and thus eliminated the entire monetary cost of materials for the erection of the brick part of the house.

"The wood used in the building was also prepared by hand, except the sawing of the lumber which was done with a sash saw, there being a saw of that kind on almost every small stream that would furnish power to pull a saw. The lumber was then seasoned and planed by hand. The flooring was of hard gray ash. The window frames and such pieces were of the best poplar, and the finish lumber and doors were of walnut. The sleepers were of white oak logs, hewed on one side, with the ends flattened to a thickness of about eight inches, and the joists were likewise made from beech logs flattened to eight inches in thickness, the work being done with the broad-axe. The rafters were from red elm and white ash poles, straightened on one side with the broad-axe. The lath for the roof were sawed at the saw mill, while the lath for plastering the ceilings were all split by hand. The shingles for the roof were all split and shaved by hand. Thus the entire cost for materials was reduced to a minimum.

"The construction of the house began with the laying of the brick, which work was done by Austin Rogers. The foundation was four bricks in thickness and contained about twenty thousand (20,000) bricks. The flattened white oak log sleepers were then laid on the wall with the hewed side up, on which to lay the floor. The brick wall was then continued, three bricks in thickness to the desired height of the first story. Then the flattened beech logs for the joists were laid on and the walls were continued to the top of the second story. The joists were then put on and the eave troughs were fastened to the end of the joists.

"These eave troughs were made of the best of poplar logs, sawed to the full length of the house, and then dressed by hand until a cross section of the trough looked very much like the following figure. The spouting was of two and one-half (2½) inch tin spouting coming from one end of each trough down almost to the ground. These troughs also being all the cornice there was on the house.

"This done and the roof was put on from shingles split and shaved by Daniel Rarick himself. The floors were then laid, the boards being dressed by hand and tongues and grooves made with the plane, and by hand.

"The work thus far, except the laying of the brick, was largely done by Mr. Rarick and some neighbors and relatives with whom he could exchange work. The house was then plastered and it was ready for the finish.

"The finish lumber was of walnut and Absolon Shade was employed to do the work, the price being $1.25 per day or its equivalent. The lumber was planed by hand. The doors, in the original construction of the house, were sixteen in number, both large and small. These were all dressed, mortised and grooved and put together by hand, and after ninety-five (95) years of service, seem to be as solid as when first made. While some other parts of the house have been repaired or remodeled some, yet the brick structure and the inside finishing of the same remain almost the same as they were when first built."

George Mace Place - Thomas K. Wenrick's parents bought the George Mace farm east of Palestine and they moved there in 1904. It had previously been occupied by a Creager family and the Billy Mikesell family. Mrs. Seigrist notes that in the basement "finished in 1881" is marked on the wall.

James McNeil House - James McNeil lived in this house and ran the Nashville store. This brick house was probably built between 1865 and 1875. The picture was taken when Chester and Carrie Teaford lived there.

McNeil House

Jefferis Homestead

Jefferis Homeplace - This beautiful old brick home with tie rod support was the home of D.L. Jefferis family, and still is in the Jefferis family. The brick building with the bell tower was used for farmhands quarters. The Anchor Grange first met in a wooden outbuilding at this farmstead.

George Mace farm in 1892.

Keith Bussey Home

Kerst Home - Samuel Kerst probably built this charming old brick house currently owned by Keith Bussey family.

Thomas House - Isaac Bower lives in this pin timber frame home built by S.S. Thomas. The joists are logs hewn on two sides. Jim Wilcox recalls a plaque that was on the front gable of the house which was dated 1849. Jim's uncle and aunt Keith and Anna Cannon owned the house when Jim's parents Van and Ethel Wilcox lived there. Jim moved away 1948. Charlie Owens had lived in the house before. Lowell Thomas's grandmother lived there awhile.

Koons Cabin - Ed Starkes lives in this two story log house with log addition. The cabin was built by George Koons when he moved here from Preble County.

Koons Cabin

J.J. Thomas House

George Jr. and Barbara (Bollinger) Miller from 1888 Daguerreotype. Back row, standing left to right: Isaac, Adam, Solomon, Daniel, Andrew. Front, left to right: John, Nettie (on lap), George, Sarah Jane, Barbara, Nancy, Anna, Lucinda, George.

Woodmansee House

Rank House

Skidmore House

Woodmansee House - Mr. and Mrs. Michael Greene live in this two story brick with hewn log joists. The home is still wood fire heated. It is believed that the house was here when Tampico was laid out in 1850. Asa Woodmansee was a major owner of lots in Tampico. Elizabeth Woodmansee is living here by 1875.

George Miller House - George Miller came to this area 1838 or 1839, and built this frame house in 1856. George had 19 children by three marriages. The house remains in the family, and, along with the Beech Grove Church, is the site of annual Miller reunions.

Rank House - This home built by Frank Rank in 1871. Located on Winchester Pike in Washington Township. The Rank's had eleven children and Mr. Rank purchased a farm for each one of the eleven children. The home is now owned by Winner's.

Skidmore House - This home was built in 1836. Owners included Peter Skidmore, Zigler, Snodgrass, Young, Britton. Now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Miller. Shake shingle addition has been added to the east side of the house. Located on Winchester Pike.

Buechler Home - Monnie Price and husband purchased 1931. Teaford family had owned from 1898 to 1931. On a marker at the top corner of the house is the date 1853. On a beam in the basement is carved the name of Peter Beachler. It is not known if the Beachler's built the house but they were one of the earliest owners.

Collins Homeplace - This house was just east of the Goens brick house on Stingley Road. According to James McCown III, it was the first frame house built in the area. It was built by James McCown (1798-1887) who also built the brick house. This homestead had a summer kitchen and a spring house. John Collins (1819-1873) was the progenitor of the Collins family in the area, and was the first Collins to live in this house. The house was built before he moved to this location.

Buechler House

Collins Homestead

Frank Hiatt Home - The old Frank Hiatt home off Anglin' Road is partly log.

Tom Ross House - Tom Ross lives where his father Jess Ross lived before him. This house is over one hundred years old.

Four Gables - "According to those who wrote the news of 1877, Geyer (Wesley) had formed a dislike for one David Putnam, an attorney who resided in Palestine and who had much to say in the town's civic affairs. Putnam, it is related, openly accused Geyer of dishonesty, going so far on one occasion as to brand him a horsethief. And stealing a horse was a capital crime in 1877.

"One version of the disaffection existing between Putnam and Geyer is credited to their service in the Civil War. Putnam raised a company at the first call to arms, and it is said Geyer was a member of it. Just what came up to shatter their friendship was unknown to residents of Palestine 50 years ago, but they were quick to discern that a bitter hatred had sprung up between the two men. Putnam was outspoken in his denunciation of Geyer, climaxing his charges with that of horse stealing.

"Some months before the tragedy which cost Geyer his life, Col. Putnam was passing from one room of his residence to another, carrying a lighted lamp in his hand, when a bullet crashed through a window, shattering the lamp globe and grazing his chin. No one had been seen on the street in front of the Putnam home at the time, and while there was a general tendency to credit Geyer with the attempted assassination, none dared make such an accusation open for fear of incurring his wrath. Col. Putnam was not so secretive. He added to the charge of horse stealing that of attempted murder and contended that Geyer had fired the shot which came so close to ending his existence."-(Howard Burba, newspaper article)

Putnam Building

Keener Homestead - The David Keener homestead was bought by David Keener in 1835 and is still in the family, now belonging to Ruth Deeter. Seven generations of children in that family were born on that farm. The original log cabin gave way to the present house which was built in 1849. The old Nashville-Baker Road passed near this house.

Old log house on Weaver's-Ft. Jefferson Road.

Singer house built by Jonas Dininger circa. 1860's.

Old log house on Indiana side of Stack Road.

The succession of generations and ownership went David Keener 1835, Milton Keener 1885 son, daughter Everie and daughter Nora (Keener) Rush 1901, Herbert and daughter Vesta (Rush) Light 1919, to daughter Ruth (Light) Deeter. Ruth's son Jim has bought 50 acres of the original 160 acre farm homesteaded by one of our early German Township pioneers.

Windmiller House

Nick Hollinger Log House

Walker Perry Home about 1896 - left to right: Elizabeth Wenger Harding, Nellie Harding Thornburg, Verna Harding Perry, Mable Harding, James Walker Perry. Lloyd Hammontree lives in this house now.

Ruth grew up on the farm and besides recalling the gypsies who passed by her, she recalls the episode with the chicken thief who stole chickens from her father, and 3 from a neighbor where Herb Rank lives. He sold the chickens in Lightsville but was chased down by police in Greenville thru Mud Creek to a barn where he was brought out with an empty shotgun. When confronted by Ruth's dad, he owned up. But why only steal 3 from the neighbor and 10 from the rest of us?'' ''Because Joe had a chicken who jumped down on the floor and started squawking, and I had to run so just grabbed couple of chickens.'' He was looking for hen turkey won in Sharpeye turkey shoot while at Ruth's Dad's.

Ruth also recalls the time a German sympathizer was tied to a tree in the woods across the road from their farm during First World War.

This Keener homestead may have had ties to Abraham Lincoln. Abraham Lincoln asked Ann Rutledge to marry

Keener Homestead

Tejan farm - Milton Keener family lived here 1889.

Keener Retirement House

him, but Ann said she had promised to marry someone else who was at that time conducting land transactions in the east (Ohio). She wanted to speak first with her fiance, but he never returned to Illinois, and Ann Rutledge died before she could break her engagement. The land dealer who had spoken for Ann was a man who used aliases of McNeil or McNomer, according to Hugh Staley, and is on the early deed of this farm.

Tejan Farm - This picture taken from tintype of Milton and Rachel Keener family in front of the Clark Station Road home 1889. Pictured, right to left: David, Milton, Harriet, Polley, Rachel holding baby Fern, Laura, Nora (Rush), Evrie Rush.

Keener House - Milton and Rachel (Dickey) Keener are pictured in front yard of house they built and lived in until their deaths. Located on west side of street at second alley north of 36 in Palestine. The house later moved to Merle Graham's west of town.

Bishop Road Homes

Bishop Road runs on an old Indian trail that is marked on a 1792 land surveyer's map. The trail followed the high ground on the west side of Mud Creek, swamp, and prairie. This historic stretch of road also was where an old tollhouse stood in 1875, and an early stone marker for the Greenville-Palestine turnpike. So many original homes still exist on this road, that the road may, indeed, justifiably qualify as a national historic area.

Abraham Rhoades Home - This charming brick home built in the Civil War is still in the Rhoades family. The log building was an early smoke house.

Israel Cox Home - This very early two-story brick has two fireplaces with walnut trim and a narrow stairway. It was originally served by a nearby spring which still exists. The owners stripped the woodwork down to an original paint made from blueberries and milk.

Brumbaugh House - "This old home was known as the 'old brick'. Deeds go back to 1840 on this property. The late attorney Jesse Brumbaugh was born in this house. His father was Curtis Brumbaugh and his grandfather Jesse. Brumbaugh Road in this area was named for the family." (Toni Seiler notes). The brick two-story home on Bishop Road was built between 1847 and 1852. The walls are three bricks thick with every eighth layer or coarse of bricks turned endways. One fireplace is downstairs and one upstairs. The home had been in the Brumbaugh family until 1972 when Steve and Ann Kolb purchased it. The Kolbs have retained much of the original charm of the home, and have exposed the hand-hewn log upstairs floor joists as ceiling beams.

Herman and Margaret Unger Home - Margaret recounts the story of her great-grandfather George D. Miller; wanted to go to Beers Institute in Greenville but lived too far away (New Madison) for the daily trip, so boarded at the house they now live in, in about 1835. George recounted the snow blowing through the walls onto his bed upstairs. The house is four rooms below and two upstairs. The original siding of the frame house was vertical. A stone foundation and hand hewn beams support the house. The interior has the original wood molding and door and window frames, and doors with wrought nails and original hardware. Margaret's Grandpa Morrow bought the house in 1880.

Abraham Rhoades Home

Isaac Cox House

Brumbaugh House

Unger Home

Hathaway Home

John Hathaway Home - This brick house owned by John Hathaway was built about 1864. The bricks for this house may have been burnt at the Jesse Brumbaugh farm. Margaret Unger says here great-grandfather George D Miller built the house when Emily (Miller) Morrow was fourteen years old.

Jonathan Wenrick Home - Jonathan Wenrick's diary shared by Daina Wenrick Landesman, records Jonathan's expenses for building the house in 1874. Jonathan moved to German Township after marrying Jacob Miller's daughter. Expenses for building house Jan. 13, 1874.

Paid to J. Davis for hauling logs	4.00
Paid to James McCabe for sawing	50.00
Paid to Charles Boze for rending mason	1.25
Paid to James McCabe for lumber	1.20
Paid for lime for stone wall	10.58
Paid to Milt Jeffries for brick	4.00
Paid to Henry Fall for stone wall	52.00
June 9th paid for shingles	33.25
June 9th paid for nails	6.55
June 15th paid for shingles and lumber	58.00
June 15th paid for nails	3.90
June 17th paid to E. Flory for lath	1.70
June 18th paid for lumber and frames and shingles	83.70
June 18th paid for nails	1.90
June 18th paid for tole	.80
June 19th paid for brick	16.00
June 20th paid for lime for chimneys	1.50
June 20th paid to T. Rule for tubes	1.80
June 20th paid for nails and tin in Greenville	.85
June 24th paid to J.G. Norris for chimneys	12.00
June 26th paid to T. Rule for chimney top	2.50
June 27th paid to G. Koonce for work on house	.75
July 6th paid to A. Kaufman in advance	3.00
July 24th and 25th paid at Carrs for lumber	59.35

Jonathan Wenrick House

July 24th paid for nails	2.10
July 28th paid at Currs for lime	21.04
July 28th paid for nails	4.15
July 29th paid at Carrs for lumber	21.23
July 31st paid for Spouting and roofing	24.85
Aug. 3rd paid for brick in well	26.60
Aug. 4th paid for lumber at Carr's	38.95
Aug. 4th paid for nails	2.38
Aug. 4th paid for hair	2.45
Aug. 10th paid to A. Coffman by 50 lbs. of flour, also by 2 lbs. butter	.60
Aug. 13th paid to G. Koonce for work at house	100.00
Aug. 13th paid for lime	8.00
Aug. 17th paid for lime	8.80
Aug. 17th paid to A. Coffman cash	5.00
Aug. 20th paid Norris for Coffman	12.00
Aug. 20th paid to C. Guire for work	1.00
Aug. 20th paid for nails at Palestine	.65
Aug. 20th A. Coffman Dr. by flour 41½ lbs.	1.35
Aug. 21st paid for hardware at Cranors	16.00
Aug. 21st paid at Carrs for lumber	210.30
Aug. 22nd paid A. Coffman Dr. by 2 lbs. of butter	.30
Aug. 24th paid for lime	5.00
Aug. 27th G. Coonces Dr. by 10 bu. of wheat	10.00
Aug. 28th paid A. Coffman by cash	10.00
Aug. 29th A. Coffman Dr. by 1 load of wood	1.70
Aug. 29th A. Coffman Dr. by 2 bu. and 16 lb. of wheat	2.20
Aug. 31st paid at Carrs for lumber	14.08
Aug. 31st paid at Cranors for hardware	23.11
Sept. 2nd paid to C. Guyre	1.00
Sept. 3rd paid to A. Coffman	11.00
Sept. 3rd paid to John K. Long by	22.50
Sept. paid for nails in Greenville	.42
Sept. 23rd paid in Greenville	1.10
Sept. 23rd paid for hinges in Palestine	.25
Sept. 26th paid to Cox for paint	5.00
Sept. 26th paid in Union City for Varnish	2.25
Sept. 28th paid to Coffman on settlement	2.33
Sept. 29th paid at Greenville for paints	3.35
Sept. 29th paid to Garver for painting	60.00
Sept. H. Smelker for pump	20.35
Sept. D. Hollinger for brick	9.00

Danny Garber adds that in the early 1900's, Jonathan remodeled the house making a two story out of it. Danny was born 1907 in the 'weanin' house' built by Wenrick for Wenrick's children. Several lived there after they first got married.

Dr. Rush House - This house is where Ralph and Lenora Hiatt now live. It is partly log frame on a stone foundation. It was formerly the Dr. A.B. Rush home, and is over 100 years old. Omar Dill lived there at one time, and recalls when the doctor lived there, a medicine cabinent was next to the stairway as you enter the house. "The house was old 78 years ago when we lived there," says Omar. Bert Hiatt bought the place in 1918. The picture was taken around 1930.

James Wilcox House - James Wilcox Sr. built this house about 1869. This and Miss Adavier's home were built with

Ralph and Lenora Hiatt Home

Wilcox House - This picture taken sometime after James Wilcox Jr.'s death in 1885. Left to right: Sally and Sherman, Newt and Sadie, Charles, Martha and Siggy (on porch), Elizabeth (Ketring) and picture of James Wilcox Jr., Lessie Wilcox Clapp, Marshall, Percival and Clara Ella (on porch), Deanna and Marquis, Lansin (child).

the lumber from the Wilcox Woods. Another old Wilcox home is where Hapner now lives.

Wysong Log Cabin - The log part of this house was originally one room up and one room down. The cabin is on Winchester Pike where the Fox Mill used to be.

Jacob Miller House/Section 14

Potter Home - This house was originally one room, and was of log and frame construction. Ana Edger says that her great-grandfather Daniel Potter used to have a sugar camp, and would make the sugar on the south side of the house. The house was built by Potter about 1843.

Burkholder Home - Ralph and Betty Burkholder have restored much of this early brick home on Weaver Station Road. The Burkholders have had the property since 1967. Samuel Brumbaugh was an early landowner selling the farm to Jacob Pitsenbarger in 1850. It is thought that Pitsenbarger built the house during the Civil War. Ralph has found one door hinge with an 1858 patent pending date. Joshua Townsend was a later owner in 1875, and Charles Townsend owned the place by 1910. Most of the interior woodwork is in walnut. Two fireplaces are at either end of the house. One room has evidence of an early stencil border around the wall near the ceiling. The center front of the house was originally an open viranda. A floor on the second story extended out in a moon or semi-circular shape. Ralph also indicates that there may have been a bell tower in the center of the house at its roof peak. The door opens to a central hallway and the staircase leading to the second floor.

Frank Baker had told the Burkholders that when his grandmother lived in the house, a small running spring of water ran through the basement. The water is still furnished by a driven well in the center of the basement. Every eighth coarse of the bricks are turned; the bricks were burned on the farm.

Parent Home - The present owner, Richard Hammaker, said that Tom Wenrick had told him the house was built within two years of when the Jesse Woods house was built. This would date the house to 1858 to 1862. The house is a pinned, hewn frame construction with two fireplaces. The 1857 map shows an old road running by this site when the land was owned by S. Parent.

Potter House

Burkholder House

Parent House

Jesse Woods House - About 1821, James and Rebecca (Peeden) Woods "built a cabin and lived in it for I think only a short time then burnt brick and built a small brick house a little N.W. of the frame which stands. I remember the old brick house of my great grandfather and mother Woods quite well for thru sentiment my Grandfather Jesse Woods allowed it to stand till it was quite dangerous and became very dilapidated. He made an excuse to leave home when the last remaining walls were torn down. We all understood his feelings with pity.

"About 1861 or so my Grandfather Jesse Woods built the frame now standing. Great Grandfather Jesse Woods lived to be 102 years old. He died about 1869." (Diary of Lola Dickey Aukerman 1865-1945)

Jesse Woods House

"The parents of Mr. Tom Wenrick bought the home in 1931 for a summer place. In 1947, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wenrick purchased the property." (Toni Seiler notes)

This home was built on an old Indian burial mound. An old road used to run by the home.

Wash Brown Home - This house where Vern Brown later lived, and Lester Hollinger now lives, is a two story brick thought to be built in 1881. Vern Brown put the bell up which he got from one of the Palestine churches. At one time a hobo came along from the railroad and offered to paint some murals on the walls in exchange for food. Some of these beautiful pictures still remain in the upstairs rooms.

Raymond Hollinger Home - This home was originally a story and a half log cabin with log foundation. The second floor has been raised and the foundation replaced with concrete.

Zebediah Bass House - Bertha Epps lives in this two story frame house which was probably built by Zebediah over one hundred years ago. Zebediah is shown living at this location on the 1875 plat.

Fred Worch House - This house was part of the Lloyd Brown property which goes back to the 1857 plat.

David Brown's (1836-1903) father is believed to have homesteaded this farm. The house was moved in 1903, from where Fred's dairy barns are now, to divide the estate between Bert and Viola Brown Noggle. An artist tramp painted murals in this house between 1903-08. The present garage was an original summer kitchen at the old house site.

Charles Wilcox House - Genevieve recalls that her father built the house 1911 or 1912. Genevieve and her mother Eva

Vern Brown House

Raymond Hollinger Home

Wilcox are in front of the house, next to the St. John's Cemetery.

Lowdenslager Home - This house next to the Palestine Exchange was where Buck and Norma Lowdenslager lived. Genevieve Wilcox recalls fondly living at the house with her parents, Charles and Eva (Armstrong) Wilcox. Charles moved there in the early 1890's. Their front yard was where the Palestine Exchange building now is.

Zebedee Bass House

Fred Worch House

Charles Wilcox House

Old Palestine Homes - While there is often no way to date a house, its architecture or word passed along by older residents can sometimes date a building. Palestine has quite a number of houses which have seen much of Palestine's rich history. Ben Smith's house, third house south of the

Norma Lowdenslager's House

store, is part log. Omar Wilson's home is pin frame structure set on rock. Charlie Hiatt was born in this house. Don Brewer's green brick home next door is also considered to be one of the older houses. Butch Best house was at one time connected to the Lou Stahr harness and shoe cobbler shop. This shop also served as the Jacob Long saloon.

Jess and Ada Mikesell's home is hewn log frame construction and was used as a boarding house in the 1920's. Goldie Strait recalls that during the 1933 centennial celebration, some thought the Chill Hittle house where Dan Clemens now lives, was the oldest house in Palestine. The Richard Baker house is a log home that might vie for the oldest house in Palestine. Henry Meinerding's house used to set on south side of road, but was moved to its present location by Burkebile in the early 1900's.

Chalmer Harding's home is about one hundred years old because his father bought the house in the early 1880's. Chalmer still lives in the same house where he was born in 1901. Adavier Ross, Jerry Thomas, and Herman Ross's homes are all over a hundred years old. Adavier's home was built with wood from the Wilcox woods by James Wilcox Jr. about 1866. Bill Wilcox and Malinda Kettering Wilcox lived there.

Mrs. Hottinger's home is one of Palestine's older residences. The architecture of Ben Kreitzer's home and the old Doc Tobin home would indicate they too are well past the century mark. Lloyd Lammott lives in the old Henry Hiper place. The front part of this house may be log. Clarence Runner had a barbershop at this house at one time. Joe Cole lives in the old John Parent home.

Gale and Madonna (Baker) Teaford's house was built by Gale's father, Norman, in 1905. Gale was born in the house in 1907, and has lived in the same house for 75 years. Mary Flo Dickey recalls that her grandmother Jane (Woods) Dickey, Squire Dickey's widow, had her house built either late 1900 or early 1901. At the time her house was the most modern in Palestine. Rill Jefferis now lives in this house.

Dale Saylor Home - The home of early Palestine doctors Doc Martz and Doc Garbold.

Photo shows Harry McCabe and mother, Retta Parent McCabe, Bernice, George, and Clement.

Old Saylor Home where Richard Hiatt now lives.

Dan Clemens House

Jesse Mikesell Home

Richard Baker Home

Mr. and Mrs. J. Parent and Geo., Clement, Lucille, John.

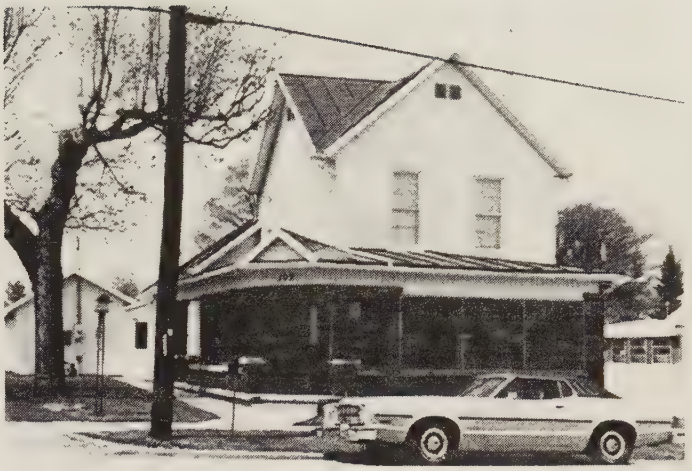
Jerry Thomas and Adavier Ross Homes

Henry Meinerding House

Phil Best and T.A. Grow Homes

Harding Home

Rill Jefferis and Mrs. Hattinger Homes



Paul Rush House

Lloyd Lamott House

Omar Wilson and Don Brewer's Homes

West Cross Street

Bob Everhart Home

Samuel Lindamood house in SE corner of section 24.

Jim Lippy home at the SW corner of 36 and township line road.

Chapter X
Events

This final chapter includes an assortment of various events occuring in and around German Township during the last one hundred fifty years.

Treaty Signer - One Indian chief that signed the Treaty of Greenville lived south of Palestine. *("History of Palestine" Bicentennial paper by Ada Mikesell & Helen Graham)*

Limestone Outcroppings - "Two exposures of rock occur in the Mud creek valley: one on the southwest side of the prairie, about a mile from Greenville, in the southeast quarter of section thirty-three (33), Greenville township; the other near Weaver's Station in the southeast quarter of section twenty-nine (29), Neave township. At the former place, known as Gard's quarries, the rocks are found folded with an inclination to the south and east. Here the rocks are similar to those at Baer's mill and contain many fossils. Near Weaver's Station the creek flows over a horizontal bed of limestone for about a hundred and fifty yards. This stone is not hard enough for building purposes and seems to contain no fossils. A section of rock is exposed in the southwest quarter of section twenty-four (24), Harrison township, about a mile south of New Madison, near the headwaters of the east fork of the Whitewater river, where a limekiln was formerly operated by one C.B. Northrup.

"In the pioneer days, limerock was quarried at Baer's, Gard's and Weaver's Station, burned in kilns and used extensively for plastering, bricklaying, whitewashing, etc. The quality of lime produced was of very high grade, but on account of the limited areas of outcrop and the obstacles encountered in getting the rock out, these quarries have been abandoned for several years." (*History of Darke County, Ohio,* Vol. I, pp. 18 & 19, Frazer E. Wilson. 1914)

1820 Swamps - In 1820 the valleys of Bridge Creek, Mud Creek, and the West Branch were then impenetrable swamps, covered by willows and inhabited by wolves.

Justices of the Peace - "Record of Justices Commissions & Elections" provides information on German Township's early Justices, whose terms were generally four years.

Benjamin Eakins: 1824-1827, 1827-1830, 1830-1833, 1833-
John McNeil: 1825-1828
Samuel Rhoades: 1827-1830
William Wiley: 1829-1832, 1832-
Moses Rush: 1829-1832, resigned 2-5-1831
Samuel Fisher: 1831, after 1831 full term
Elias Bumgardner: 1834-
Moses Woods: 1834-
Joseph F. Randolph: 1836-
Elias Bromagen: 1837, 1840
John Morris: 1837, 1840

Abraham Dickey lime kiln in Weaver Station.

Early Trustees - The township clerk's records indicate the following persons of Liberty Township served as early trustees:

1837, 1838: Donovan Reed, John Ketring, John Crum, David Stephens, Jacob Grow, John Wagoner, Peter Crumrine, James Clark, Harvy Harrison, Wm. Wagoner.
1839: Andrew Sparks, Aaron Crumrine, Asa Woodmansee, James Clark, John Crum
1841: Asa Woodmansee, Hezekah Fryer, David Keener
1844: Asa Woodmansee, John Ketring, Abraham Cose

Sept. 1852 Newspaper - "offered to the farmers of Darke County a great labor saving apparatus in the way of drills for the seeding of wheat. The machines are very nice and exact in their operations."

County Agricultural Society - formed November 16, 1852 with a committee of one from each township including A. Weaver from German, E.J. Putman from Harrison, C. Folkerth from Neave, and Henry Snell from Washington.

Fair Board - W.C. Deem of Palestine was on the first Darke County Fair Bd for the fair held the 7th and 8th of September, 1853 in "Garst Woods".

Jesse Woods - Woods was county commissioner when the court house was built 1878. He also aided in laying out the Palestine cemetery.

Vigilantes

Wesley Guyer Murder - "Palestine, a small village of Darke County, Ohio, a few miles from the Indiana State line, was the scene of a startling tragedy on Wednesday night last. Wesley Geier, cabinet maker from a Southern State, settled there in 1858. He built up a good trade, and prospered, bought three lots on Main Street and built on them. He was the father of seven children, the eldest twenty-two years old, the youngest five. Geier served two years in the Sixty-ninth Regiment, O.V.I., and was discharged because of rheumatism.

"In late years he began to get drunk occasionally, and to abandon his business. In 1872 he and Theodore Reed were arrested for stealing a horse from a neighboring farmer. Reed made a confession putting the blame on Geier, and then broke jail and disappeared. Geier was never tried for the crime, but after his arrest was a changed man. He stole some lumber from a sawmill, was fined $20, and then asked the owner of the lumber to loan him money to pay the fine. In 1873 Geier was arrested for passing counterfeit money. He said that a lawyer named Putnam was his partner in the transaction. Both escaped punishment. In the next year Putnam was fired upon while carrying a lighted lamp through a rear room of his house on Main Street. The assassin discharged forty slugs through a thin panel of the door. One of them cut off the throat button on Putnam's undershirt. For this offense Geier, his son Charles, and Joseph Burgess, for fifteen years Justice of the Peace, were arrested. The evidence was strong against the elder Geier but he was afterward released and on the day set for Squire Burgess' trial, Putnam disappeared and hasn't returned.

"It is related that Geier once stole an entire week's washing from a farmer's clothes line, carried them three miles and hid them in his stable where they were found by a constable. Geier was not molested for this small transaction, as the farmer said: 'You can't get me to prosecute Wes Geier, for if he should get mad about it my buildings would be burned.' Two months ago he was suspected of robbing a drygoods store in Palestine, but was not arrested.

"One of Geier's companions in crime was Jacob Quackenbosh, who deserted from the Confederate army before the battle of Pittsburg Landing, and not daring to return to his old home in North Carolina came to this county. One of his neighbors describes him as 'a mean cuss from North Carolina swamps, half alligator and half something else, stuffed full of fighting whiskey.'

"So frequent were the depredations of Geier and Quackenbosh that a secret organization was formed, known as the Farmer's Protective Club. Apparently no one knew who were members of the club, but three weeks ago a large wagon load of silent men were driven rapidly through Palestine and out into the country to a lonely spot, and there were carefully drilled in military marching and firing orders. About a week later Wesley Geier received a mysterious letter, which he was seen to read with a troubled countenance. The night before he received the letter one of the Farmer's Club saw Geier and Quackenbosh carrying wheat from a barn and hiding it in fields, where they guarded it for two nights. They abandoned the wheat after Geier received the letter.

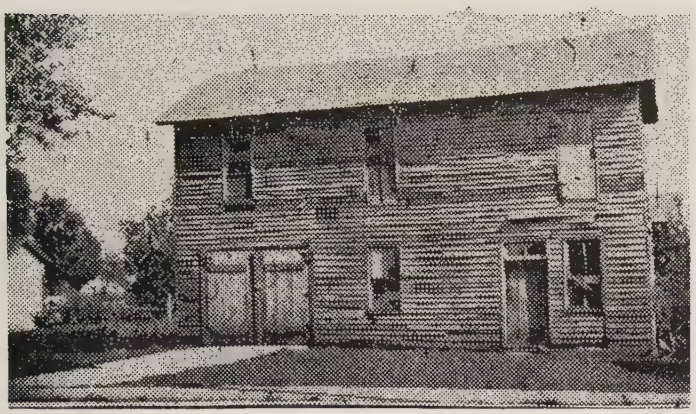
"A day or two afterward a neighbor asked Geier 'Have you got the news yet?' 'Yes,' said Geier; 'I got it in a letter and there was hell in it, too.'

"It was eleven days after he received that letter, or on Wednesday evening, the 26th at 7 o'clock (1877), that some village boys playing in front were startled by the regular tramp of many feet down the turnpike leading into the village from the east. The marching column, two abreast, rounded into Main Street, and in a moment the leader reached the front gate of Geier's house yard. He called a halt in an assumed Irish brogue. He was six feet high and his face was completely concealed by a mask. About fifty stalwart men, each with a gun by his side, stood with masked faces on the walk fronting the house. Jake Quackenbosh had just gone away from the door, leaving Wesley Geier in the house. Mrs. Geier had retired, but on hearing the heavy trampling outside went to a front window in her night garments, and heard the captain of the masked men call out, in a poor imitation of Irish brogue: 'Is the man of the house at home?'

"She answered, as she stepped to the door, 'Yes, sir, he is.' Then she closed the door and said to her husband, 'Wesley, there's a lot of men out here who want you. Shall I open the door?'

" 'Certainly, why not', he answered. 'Don't go out there,' urged Mrs. Geier. Geier went out to the gate, and leaning upon the post, faced the two ranks of armed and masked men. Mrs. Geier has said since that the leader uttered something about being 'the Seymore Gang,' and that they had understood the citizens did not like her husband, and that they had or would give him ten days to leave the village. One of the masked men stepped out and fired. Geier, without a word, fell dead upon the brick walk leading to the door in which stood Mrs. Geier, her three young children huddling about her in terror.

"The one shot seemed to be a signal for a volley from the ranks. It is estimated that a dozen guns were discharged at the dead man. The base board of the picket fence shows the scars of many bullets. Gravel and pieces of brick were hurled into Mrs. Geier's face, but she was unharmed. As she stood there stunned with the horror of the scene, the bad Irish voice said: 'Now, we give this man's entire family ten days to leave this community, and if they don't they will be troubled just this way, and don't any of you forget it.' They, stepping into the street, the leader commanded, 'About face, two ranks forward, march!' And as orderly as they had approached they tramped away in perfect time, elbows



The house where Wesley Guyer was killed.

touching, up Main Street and into Walnut, until they had Jake Quackenbosh's house. The column was halted and the man of the house summoned. 'Yes, sir-e-e!' answered Jake in person. 'We'll give you five days to leave this county,' said the leader.

" 'I'll go when I damned please!' Jake shouted, and then dared the whole crowd out into the street to fight it out. They saw that Jake was very drunk. Then the order was given. 'Forward, quick time, march!' and the well disciplined column went south onto the Greenville turnpike, thence east for a mile, and disappeared.

"Quackenbosh bought some groceries for his wife and three little children, and then, brandishing his big revolver in the streets this morning, departed from Palestine. Geier's two oldest sons disappeared yesterday. They are hard cases. Mrs. Geier kissed them farewell and said: 'For God's sake, boys, don't play cards any more, and don't take what doesn't belong to you.' Mrs. Geier is forty years old, of medium height, with a most determined gleem in her blue eyes. When asked what she intended to do, she said:

'Get away from here just as soon as I can dispose of my property. I can't possibly leave by the time they gave me, but Willie will go tomorrow. I wouldn't remain here for nothing, for every time I go to that front door, I seem to see Wesley a laying there on them bricks in his blood.' " (source: October 28, 1877, Greenville newspaper)

"At Palestine, Darke County, Ohio, Wednesday at midnight, Wesley Guyer, an old resident living on the outskirts of the town, was aroused by calls at his door, and an opening it, was surrounded by a band of masked men, armed with rifles, who riddled him with bullets, from which he died. Guyer was suspected of being concerned in a number of unlawful acts recently committed. Another story was that he was killed by his own gang, who fear betrayal." (October 26, 1877, Cincinnati paper)

Legend has it that as a member of the vigilante band was sick and dying, word passed among the others, and one of them was constantly at the dying member's bedside until he passed away.

Stephen Wade Murder - The following articles are reprinted from various October, 1878 issues of "The Greenville Democrat".

Another Assassination in Darke

"Another murderous piece of outlawry has been committed in German township, again dabbling and damnably staining the fair escutcheon of Darke County with blood of the assassin's victim. The excuse alleged for this murderous mobocracy is that the victim and his sons had been thieving. And if the allegation be true it is no justification for the murder. The law is ample to punish crime of whatever grade. It is the second assassination in that township within a few short months. This great enormity is a seriously dangerous menace to the peace and life of the whole community, for 'he that lives by the sword shall die by the sword,' and as assassins may escape for the time, as true as the adage that 'chickens will come home to roost,' so may they expect that even handed, yes, perhaps in like coin, red-handed justice will overtake them. We record this as was done in the former similar case with the gravest regrets that such murderous outlawry should have occurred in our midst. No community can afford to silently acquiesce in murderous 'Ku-Klux' raids, no matter what the character or the offense of the victims. The practice and precedent is alarmingly dangerous. And if it be said that this band of assassins only kill thieves, is not the precedent such as to beget other bands, who will assassinate honest citizens upon one pretext or another?

"Our reporter visited the premises on Monday - he presents a diagram of the building, and the incidents of the murder, as detailed by those within the house at the time, and as given by their neighbors, viz:

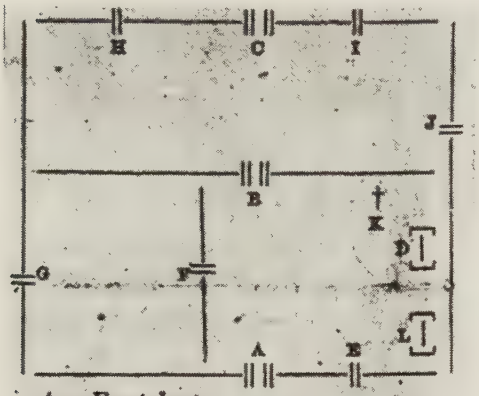
"On the night of Oct. 5, at 12:10 a.m., Mr. Stephen Wade, of German township, Darke county, Ohio, was murdered in his own house by a mob of masked and armed men on horses. They seem to be men who are interested in matters in that neighborhood as the following notices were sent to Wade ordering him to leave, the first being dated June 14, 1878, and mailed at Winchester, Ind.: 'To Stephen Wade, A. Robert Wade, Benj. Wade and Philip Wade, you are each and every one of you hereby advised to leave and stay away from Darke county, Ohio, within thirty days from date, or suffer the penalty. This means business.'

"The above is the exact wording of the notice written in red ink. Mr. Wade and family were charged with stealing and concealing stolen goods from people in that settlement, and received this as a warning of death if he did not leave.

"Three months passed and another notice with a picture of a coffin with a man in it was received by Wade, dated September 14, 1878, as follows: 'You and your whole family are hereby notified for the last time to leave this county in haste.'

"This notice was written plainly in black ink, but was not taken out of the Post Office until about the first of October. These notices were not obeyed by Wade, and when all was quiet and he was sleeping in bed, the midnight murderers surrounded the house savage-like and made ready to shoot and kill the old man who was now fast asleep.

"Here is a correct diagram of the house:



A.—Front door.
B.—Door leading to kitchen.
C.—Back door, in which Wade received the fatal shot, while attempting to escape.
D.—Wade's bed.
E.—Front window, through which first shot was fired.
F.—Door to north room.
G. H. I. J.—Windows in which shots were also fired.
K.—An old clock, standing near the head of Wade's bed, which was struck by the first ball fired, causing it to toll the hour of "one."
L.—Bed occupied by children.

"The first shot was fired through the front window and struck an old clock just above Wade's bed. He was aroused at the attack and pistol report, and quickly fired into the mob but with no effect. Then, startled at his position, listened to the cries of the mob. 'Come out, you damned s__n of a b____h,' and finally asked, 'What do you want?' the answer came back, 'Come out, the night of your resurrection has come and you must go to hell before us.' Then Wade ran to the north window and looked out, when he perceived the murderers who were thirsting for his blood guarding his house. He remained quiet for a while, and the mob did likewise. But as he did not show himself, the firing begun on all sides and through all the windows, especially in front of the house. At once, Wade, over-excited with fear, ran to the back door and intended to escape through the yard, but when he opened it he received a heavy load from a shot gun in his left eye penetrating his brain. He dropped in his tracks saying, 'Oh, Lord!' and died without a struggle.

"At one o'clock, when the murderers had gone north satisfied of having killed their enemy, three small children, two in the arms of Wade's housekeeper and one by her side, almost speechless with terror ran to the neighbors, who by this time were all up and trembling with fear. It was 4 o'clock Sunday morning before anybody would go to the scene of the murder, believing their lives were at stake. Wade's son's were not at home, or it is probable four would have been shot to death instead of one.

"A post mortem examination was held by Dr. C.C. Sater et al., and sixteen shot (No. 1) were taken from his brain, thirty from his face, chest, neck, shoulders and arms, all more or less mashed.

"This is the second murder that has been committed, in the same township only 4 miles apart and for about the same cause, within eleven months. Excitement prevails wherever the story is heard, and the general feeling is 'Bring the outlaws to justice.'

Kidnappers Arrested

"Wm. Shumake, John Archey, Solomon Furgeson, Marshal Burden, Jacob Burden, Oliver Morgan, Albert Dickey and Robert Hunt, who reside in Indiana, but a mile or so from the Ohio line, charging Wm. Wade, who is a son of Stephen Wade, recently shot to death by the Ku-Klux, with the theft of a pig, came into Ohio, a part of whom representing themselves as officers, kidnapped the said Wm. Wade and forcibly conveyed him to Winchester, Ind., went through the forms of a trial, and confined their prisoner in jail.

"This outrage coming before the Darke county Grand Jury, a State requisition of arrest was procured, upon which Sheriff J.W. Hall arrested seven of the gang on the 7th instant, and M. Burden on the 8th inst. Five of the number, viz.: Wm. Shumake, M. Burden, Oliver Morgan, Robert Hunt, and Jacob Burden, gave bail, the first named in a $1,000, and the others in $400 each. The other three are confined in Jail. Out of these arrests and their prosecution a clew may be had as to the perpetrators of the two assassinations occurring in German township, Darke county, Ohio. If Indianians are the murderers that testimony would relieve Darke county citizens very much and save the good name of the county.

Arrested for the Murder Wade

"It will be recollected that Stephen Wade (colored) was shot to death in his house on the evening of Oct. 5th, 1878, by a band of masked, marauding assassins. The Darke County January term Grand Jury found indictments against a number residing in Darke, also just across the State line in Indiana, for this horrible and cowardly murder; and also against several additional parties for the kidnapping of William Wade, a son of the murdered Wade. Sheriff J.W. Hall, provided with a State requisition, planned to capture the offenders between midnight and daylight on last Saturday morning.

"The plan was for Deputy Sheriff J.M. Hall, with a posse of assistants to make arrests of parties residing on the Ohio side; while Lou Shofer, City Marshal of Richmond, with assistants undertook the arrest of the indicted residing on the Indiana side. The said Deputy Sheriff arrested Jesse Lamb, for the murder of Stephen Wade and kidnapping of Wm. Wade, Wm. Bass and Samuel Sanders for kidnapping. On the Indiana side, Wm. Shumake and Lew Burden were arrested on the charge of murder; also Wesley Lock, John Smith, John Randell and Mitchel Campbell for kidnapping.

"The Indiana prisoners were taken to Richmond for identification, who were arraigned before Judge Kibby, of the Wayne County Circuit Court. This procedure was waived, except as to Lock and Campbell, who by mutual agreement were discharged for the time being, but who will be re-arrested.

"Sheriff Hall arrived on the 9:30 train, Saturday evening, with the others, viz: Shumake, Burden, Randell and Smith.

"With the exception of the two discharged at Richmond as above, and Warren Bass, John Randall and Samuel Sanders, who gave bail, the balance are now in the county jail.

"Three others indicted for kidnapping escaped arrest by leaving their homes previous to the night of the said arrests.

"Deputy Sheriff Hall brought his prisoners in early on Saturday morning.

"Albert Dickey, recently sent to the Pentitentiary in the Wade kidnapping case was brought back by the Sheriff to testify before the Grand Jury that found the indictments upon which Saturday's arrests were made.

Nollied

"Rob's Ferguson, John Archey, and Albert Dickey, convicted during the October, 1878, term of Darke Common Pleas of aiding in the kidnapping of Wm. Wade, the circumstances of which are familiar to the readers of the *Democrat*, and who were under the sentence of the Court immediately put to work in the Ohio Penitentiary, and in whose behalf an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court, which high Court granted a new trial upon the ground that, according to the evidence, said parties acted ignorantly of their duty or right to so act, in the belief that they were acting only in accordance with the law, in aiding the Indiana constable in the said kidnapping. Under this state of the case, and in consideration of all the circumstances, the Prosecuting Att'y, Henry Calkins, entered a nollie, setting them at liberty during last week's session of our Common Pleas Court.

Trial for Murder

The State of Ohio,
vs. Darke Com. Pleas.
William Shumake.

"This case came on to be heard in the Darke Common Pleas on Monday, March 10th, 1879. Prs. Att'y, Henry Calkins, Jacob Baker, B. Collins and J.T. Meeker, for the State. Deft's Att'ys, W.A. Bickle, C.M. Anderson, Chas. Calkins, Allen and Devor, Knox and Sater.

"The following are the names of the Jury procured between two and three o'clock of the first day, viz:

"John S. Pittman, John Drew, Dan'l W. Penny, John Knoll, Jacob T. Sproull, John W. Veitz, W.H. Miller, David C. Oliver, Henry C. Miller, Ferdinand Linder, Eli A. Helm, Marison Mills.

The Testimony

"Thos. E. Teal, Coroner, was the first witness examined, who testified as follows: Held an inquest on the body of Stephen Wade, Oct. 6th, last I found him on the east side of his dwelling and just outside of the door, with his head partly in a bucket. His left eye was shot with No. 1 birdshot; also found a load of shot in his breast, just under the skin. Arrived at 10 o'clock, Sunday; found a crowd between 300 and 500 people. The body had not been touched by any one -had pants, shirt and stockings on. The dec'd lived in a log house, four or five rods from the road; was well-acquainted with dec'd. Took Dr. Bennett, of Hill Grove, along, to assist in post mortem examination; Dr. Sater also assisted. The testimony was taken in north room, while the doctors were in the adjoining room with the body. Examined Minerva and Dick Wade, B.F. Wade, Phil Wade, and two boys, who said he was their grandfather.

"George Alexander, grandson of Wade, 20 years of age -was in the house when Wade was killed. There was also present that night, Edward Alexander (witness's brother), Minerva Wade and baby Frankie, Charles Wade and Harley Wade. The dec'd, Steve Wade was at a meeting, came home early, and all retired. The hallooing wakened him (the witness) between 12 and 1 o'clock: - 'Steve, oh, Steve!' Steve replied, 'What's the matter?' Mob - 'We have come to kill you, and your whole G____ damn family.' Wade asked time to get away, but the mob refused, when there was great confusion in the house; then the cry of murder was given three times. Could not see or tell who any of them were. Stephen Wade shot first, with an army musket, through the window, with squirrel shot, followed by numerous fires from the mob, through the same window. Cries from Minerva within, 'Strangers, let us out.' Answer from the mob - 'Out of the lower part of hell;' afterwards mob gave them five minutes to get out, and they left, partly dressed, for Rob Clemens' house, whose family were asleep in bed. Mob was there 15 minutes; don't know the number of shots fired. Family left the house several days after the killing, and now live in Eaton.

"Close cross examination followed, to see if Minerva recognized any persons. Bill Wade at the time was in Winchester Jail, and John Wade at Union City.

"March 11th, Dr. Joseph Bennett, of Hillgrove, was the first witness sworn, who testified as follows: I was called upon by the coroner to examine the body of the murdered man, Stephen Wade. I found the body stiff and cold on its side, and the left eye entirely shot away; found 12 or 13 shot in the body, and 16 or 17 in the brain, two-thirds of the way back. Judging from the injuries received, a shot-gun was used, fired not far from the dec'd, but couldn't state the distance. No evidence of powder about the wound. After receiving the shot, no man could likely travel an inch, but drop dead instantly. The post mortem examination was held in main room and the body found at the back door, head lying in a bucket; indications of fires on the right hand of door, and on the left check of the door. On examining the house found many shots, supposed to be bullet, pistol and shot-gun shots. [Here the witness pointed out, from a plat of the house, the location of two beds opposite each other, and a clock above one]. The house was one story and built of logs, with a frame kitchen, situated about 30 yards from the road, and partly surrounded by a dilapidated fence. The stable was located in a south-easternly direction from the house, and had a yard. Excused.

"Reuben Goens of German twp., was then sworn - he said: The probable distance from Wade's to Shumake's house is 1¾ miles; have known Shumake for 30 years - distant relation of his; his habits are firm and business-like.

"Here counsel for defendant objected to inquiring into the character of Shumake, as:

"Q. - Have you had any conversation with any one about the assassination?'

"A. - Yes, I have talked with Mr. Shumake several times, and he always said he was innocent.'

"Q. - Did he tell you where he was that night?'

"A. - He told me he was at home sick all that night with erysipelas on his hand-saw his hand on the 11th of Oct., it had several blisters thereon. I heard that he told someone he had went to Jerry Middleton's that night, about which when asked he replied that was not true.

"Q. - Did you hear anything of a notice being left at Wade's house that night?

"A. - Yes, Shumake said that he never thought of doing such a thing, and did not to my recollection tell me he was there - never told me where he was that night. The Doctor came early Sunday morning, Oct. 6th, to dress Shumake's hand. I saw his hand was sore a week before that, when it was coated with yellow medicine - when I saw him Monday morning Oct. 7th, he was in bed with hand tied up - went there on business from Spartinsburg.

"Q. - How did he go to Middleton's that night?

"A. - He told me that if he had said he was there he must have been out of his mind, mistaken and could not account for it.

"Cross examined by deft's counsel: The witness said the def't was building a barn at the time his hand was hurt, which was raised one week after Shumake was taken sick Saturday night on his return from Union City, Ind., - Emma Goens and Rosa Holland were working in his house -Shumake's wife got her husband's pocketbook and I made a credit on the note I owed; Mr. Shumake spoke about Dr. Morgan being there. I was there three hours, left about 2 o'clock in the afternoon to attend Mr. Wade's funeral.

"Q. - When, where and with whom did he tell he was at Jerry Middleton's?

"A. - In the family, before any indictment was found against him. He did not say when he was at Middleton's, but he had been there to get money to finish building his barn, and returned home about 8 or 9 o'clock the same night. Talked with Mr. Shumake about the murder, but nothing was said as to who done the deed.

"Q. - Did you talk with the old man about the notices?

"A. - Yes; and he said a notice was left there by the Bill Wade kidnappers on the 14th of June, but he had nothing against the dec'd, and didn't know who done it.

"Several questions objected to here in regard to acting as his agent in looking up the evidence in the case. Witness said Mr. Shumake requested him to do so.

"Q. - Did you have any conversation with Emma Goen's father or mother, or any of the family, telling them not to testify in this case?

"The object of this was to prove that the State's witnesses have been intimidated and testimony suppressed.

"Q. - Did you tell Emma Goens not to attend under the instructions of Mr. Shumake?

"Withdrawn and witness discharged.

"Moses Jefferson - I live in German township, three quarters of a mile southwest of where Stephen Wade lived, whose house is twenty-seven and a half steps from the road.

"Q. - Did you ever converse with the defendant about the murder?

"A. - Yes; three or four weeks after the killing.

"Q. - Did you know of any organization to kill Wade?

"A. - No. Mr. Shumake said to me the darned niggers had accused him of murdering Wade, but it was not true, as he was at Spartinsburg; yet he did not state who he thought the niggers were. Had no conversation with him about the kidnapping.

"Minerva J. Wade seated - Will be twenty-one the 27th of April; was at my father's house the night he was killed; my father went to a political meeting that evening and came home about 10 o'clock; all of the family retired at different hours, my brother between 10 and 11 o'clock, the others before that time; the mob came to the house and called, 'Stephen Wade, get up, you d____d s__n of a b____h, the day of resurrection has come,' two or three times; the mob fired first through the front window and struck the old clock; then Wade got his gun and fired; I saw someone outside as I raised my head up from my bed which was right by the window; a general fire commenced from the outside, and my father cried murder several times; all of us were frightened very much; father started to run back into the kitchen, and never returned, being killed as he opened the back door to escape, and fell against the door frame; I cried and begged them to let us out.

"Q. - Did you identify anybody there by the voice?

"A. - One voice there sounded like Joe Burden's, another like Albert Dickey's. I saw one colored man standing at the window - didn't know him - and another heavy set man, not very black, with a mustache, not so large a man as Reuben Goans; saw no others; my father received two notices to leave, one the night Wm. Wade was kidnapped; I saw no blood any place except where the dead body laid; a brownish hat was found in the yard the next morning, and I saw it in the house, also a paper with writing on it.

"Here the witness was cross examined by defendant's counsel, and she described all that was going on in the house; after the first fire she crawled under the bed with her baby and the little boy Haley, and the boys were trying to take rescue in a straw bedtick; every one in the house were greatly excited; when we got permission to leave, all left, Ed Alexander taking the lead and Geo. Elliott the rear; saw one man at the gate 12 feet from her, and one standing in the smokehouse door 10 feet from her door; the moon was shining brightly; we saw at Rob. Clemens', the house we took refuge in, Elizabeth Goans and Chas. Bass; I saw Frank Goans on my way to my sister's early in the morning.

"Court adjourned till 1½ o'clock p.m. Witness not through with.

Afternoon

"Minerva Wade again called and place in the chair, unwell.

"Q. - When did you see Mr. Shumake last before the murder?

"A. - I saw him the day before, in the afternoon, in Wade's orchard picking up apples.

"Q. - When did you see him last?

"A. - I saw him also the night my father was murdered, at the front window, in dark clothes and a broad-rimmed hat.

"Here the attorneys engaged in a hot argument, because the question just answered was a vital one, and very strong evidence against the defendant, and a very sharp and spirited cross questioned as to where she was after court adjourned at noon, and she said she was at a grocery on the west side of Broadway with her sister, and did not converse with any one. Minerva, suffering intense agony of mind and body, was released from giving further testimony for the present.

"B.F. Wade was next sworn and seated in the chair, and said: I am 36 years old, and reside in German township; last October I was at a sale 2 miles from home, Saturday afternoon before the murder; the last time I saw him alive about five o'clock Saturday evening; I retired about 10 o'clock that night at my home, which was about the distance of an eight acres field from my father's home; I heard a terrible noise of voices at my father's house; I and my brother Philip broke out and run, and were about 450 yards from the stable when the first shot was fired, and crawled along the fence within 15 steps of the house, and constant fire was kept up by the mob for a short time, and then they got on their horses and left; I recognized Mitchell Campbell, Wm. Shumake there; Campbell was commander, and Shumake rode on a bay horse, which, when standing, was hitched to Mr. Bass's fence; I measured a horse-track the morning after the murder, about sun-up, and it was that of Shumake's horse, by comparison. I saw some blood streamed along the ground five feet from the west window, and a short distance down the road by Mr. Bass' house. There were about 25 or 30 men in the mob, all on horses. The first notice was handed to my father on the night that Wm. Wade was kidnapped. This notice, 'To Stephen Wade,' and c., [See *Democrat*, Oct. 9, '78] was found on the gate-post with a chip on it. Two other notices were received by the dec'd; another was found written with a pencil, on the morning of the murder near the window [all were produced and identified by the witness; the witness was handed an old hat, found in the lot that morning, and he identified it also]. After the old man was killed I packed up and went to Eaton, Ohio; I discovered my dead father at the back door, with his head lying in a bucket, and shot in the eye with a shot-gun. I found many shot in the back door, and bullets and pistol discharges around the front window and in the cans that were sitting on a window-sill inside of the house, near my father's bed. The front window-lights were all shot out, and curtain torn to pieces.

Witness given to defendant's counsel for cross examination.

"He said the first shot was fired from the road, through the front window; then all went up to the house; the fence being torn down; Mitch Campbell gave the command on a sorrel horse at the gate; knew him by his voice, having heard him cry many sales, and also knew him by his size. He had a cloth over his face, and wore a broad brimmed, dark hat; I supposed to be the man that rode to the stable near which I was secreted, to be Mr. Shumake. I think that Albert Dickey was there on a black mare, and had on a blue coat, and that Lewis or Jospeh Burden was there, Mr. Shumake had his trousers in his boots, and a gun, and I recognized him by his horse, saddle, and form, and I am sure it was him, as I was six or seven steps from him; I saw him going east through my yard about 11 o'clock Saturday. I was sworn by the Coroner the next day, Sunday, and testified without mentioning any names. I did not tell anyone that I knew some of the assassins, but my uncle Silas Wade.

"Edward Alexander: I lived with my grandfather, Stephen Wade, last October, and in his house at the time the murder occurred. The mob came and called: 'Steve, oh, Steve!' Steve replied, 'What's wanting?' and the response was: 'We have come to kill you and your whole damned family. To send you down to the lower part of hell.' Wade pleaded for time to get out, but when they told him where he would have to go, he said he wouldn't go with them and commenced hallooing murder.

"I saw no blood except where the dead body was. Did not look elsewhere.

"Minerva begged to get out, and one party outside said: 'We'll let you out into the lower part of hell.' Another said: 'Yes, we'll let you out and give you five minutes to get away.' All of us went out over the dead man, after the shooting was done, and I saw no one but the deceased.

"Cross-examined: I believe the deed was committed between 12 and 1 o'clock, but could not recognize any of the perpetrators; all of the men must have been on the west side of the house, if about the house at all. Did not see any dog but mine, which was black.

"Witness discharged and Court adjourned till 8½ o'clock, A.M., Wednesday, March 12th.

"[The above is the testimony up to Tuesday evening, the close of the 2nd day of the trial. Our next issue will contain the remainder, with the finding, probably, — Ed. Dem.]

Trial for Murder

The State of Ohio,
vs. Darke Com. Pleas.
William Shumake

Afternoon session
The Testimony

"Noah Green recalled and cross examined - There were between 25 and 50 men in the mob, and the horses looked dark. It was 12 o'clock and they were going northward. I did not swear some went north and some south before the Grand Jury, nor that none of them went northward. I do not know who any of them were.

"Q. - Why didn't you track them up?

"A. - I was not interested enough in the murder. I saw Shumake with the kidnappers pass my house.

"Q. - Did you identify any of the murderers before the Grand Jury?

"A. - No. I told my family I thought the leader was Isaac Shively.

"Squire Miller, Palestine, Ohio, Justice of the Peace of German township - B.F. Wade was in my office one week after the murder, and he said two men rode up by the fence where he was; but he did not say who they were. I know B.F. Wade's reputation to be bad.

"Silas Shumake, only son of Wm. Shumake, 40 years old - I was home Saturday, and my father and mother went to Union City a little after 12 o'clock that day in a drizzling rain. Emma Goans and Rosa Holland were there, and Thos. Horner and others were working at the barn. When my father returned home he had a chill. His hand was sore then and two weeks before I went after Dr. Morgan about 9 o'clock that night, and he got there about 9 o'clock and stayed one hour. I ate supper at home that night about candle light with my father, mother, Rosa Holland and Emma Goans; the carpenters ate supper at 5 o'clock and went home. Sunday morning I went after Dr. Morgan about 4 o'clock and he came back with me, but he did not have enough medicine, and I went back to get it and Rosa's shoes. Monday my father was not able to be around, and on that day I went after Dr. Morgan. My father and I went to

the election. On the night of the murder father was home sick; I slept in the same room, and if he went away I didn't know it.

"Cross examined - My father went to Union City in a one-horse buggy, a distance of eight miles.

"Wm. Shumake - I am 63 years old, and very sick.

"Q. - Did you ever have anything to do with the organization that killed Stephen Wade?

"A. - No, I did not. That night I was at home sick, Dr. Morgan was to see me Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday. My hand was sore a month before that. I did not say I wanted to do the shooting, or that the Wades had received notices. I have not shot a gun in 10 years. I was not armed whem Wm. Wade was kidnapped.

"Cross examined - I had the erysipelas, caused by having my hand hurt hauling lumber. If a witnesses said my hand was sore a week before, it was not correct, Dr. Morgan doctored me for erysipelas two or three weeks before.

"Q. - When you first sent for your physician did you have a chill?

"A. - Yes; went to bed and sent for Morgan. I have had the erysipelas for 20 years. I passed through the woods Saturday when I went to Wes Clemen's, south of Wade's house. I don't think I said I was at Jerry Middleton's that night.

"Q. - Did you tell Shively at Robbins's there would be a meeting held to consider the Wades, and that the only way to get rid of them was to destroy their nest?

"A. - No. I say the white spots on my left hand were caused by blisters and erysipelas, not by shot.

"Defendant's counsel, after consultation, decided that they had no more witnesses to examine.

"Rebutting testimony by State. Squire Ryan, Grand Juryman, recalled-My notes show that Minerva Wade identified Shumake at the murder by his voice.

"Albert Dickey and Wm. Matchett were sworn but their testimony was ruled out by the court.

"This was the last witness to be examined on both sides, and all the witnesses discharged.

"The jury, by vote, agreed to go under the charge of the Sheriff and see the premises where Wade was killed, on the morning of the 15th of March, and W.K. Kerlin appointed and sworn to accompany them under the instructions of the court.

"Court adjourned till 9 o'clock A.M., March 15th.

"Following is the order of arguments made in the case: First, Barney Collins; second, Wm. Allen; third C.M. Anderson; fourth, Henry Calkins. Court then adjourned till Monday, when J.R. Knox, W.A. Bickle and Jacob Baker closed, the case going to the jury at 4:40 p.m. At 8:15 a.m., Tuesday, a verdict of 'not guilty' was rendered."

Wednesday . . . March 19
The Shumake Trial

"The testimony in the Shumake trial closed on last Friday evening, which will be found conflicting, and the most of it indefinite. The verdict of our citizens generally is as to the prisoner, guilty but not clearly proven so. And this conclusion is arrived at more from incidents and circumstances, and the uncontradicted statements of facts having an inseparable bearing upon the case that from the conflicting Court testimony. We may say that there is an almost universal expression of belief that the prisoner is guilty as charged; and yet there are many who would acquit without regard to the testimony, which feeling predominates in the neighborhood of the assassination of Wade, wherein the good citizens of that section of the county do not seem to weigh the crime in its moral aspect, or in the sense of its fearful weight as a precedent, an incentive and a license in the accursed work of assassination, which unrestrained by the moral force of public sentiment and the vengeance of the law, but leads on to anarchy most terrible, and under whose regime, when every man shall assume not only the functions of Judge and Jury, but also that of executioner, who shall feel himself secure, and of that class of inconsiderate fools, how many would be consigned to untimely graves? It is not a question as to the character of old man Wade and his sons, the petty pilfering of the latter, or the good standing and previous law-abiding character of Shumake. But did Shumake plan, or participate in the assassination, the deliberate mobical midnight murder of Wade? And if he did, all the imputed meanness of the said Wade' sons, nor the boasted previous good-standing of the prisoner, does not weigh an iota in palliation of the atrocious crime. If the laws were enacted to punish commensurate with the crime committed, then if the daylight deliberate murderer is strangled to death on the gallows thereunder, so should the assassin be burned to death over a slow fire. But it is not the object of the law to inflict barbarous pain upon its violaters, but rather to speedily put them beyond the power of repeating such offense, as a safeguard to community and a notice of terror to the evil-disposed. We say then that whatever the character of the murdered Wade and his sons, or that of the mobites who committed the murder, it has no bearing upon the question before the public in this trial. It may be that old man Wade's house was a 'hiding nest for thieves,' which, broken up, was and is a public good, but who so thoughtless as to endorse, or even express indifference, considering the mode of its having been abated, shockingly in violation of law, every ennobling inspiration of even handed fair play in the drama of life, outraging all ideas of justice and the broadest principles of civil rights.

"In brief reference to the testimony, members of Wade's family testified: B.F. Wade said that he identified Shumake as one of the mob-saw blood (supposed to have gushed from Shumake's gangrenous erysipelas hand) five feet from window, and in road a short distance from Wade's house. Minerva Wade identified Shumake and described his coat and hat. Philip Wade recognized Shumake as one of the 25 murderers of his father. George Alexander, at Wade's house on the night of the murder, testified that Wade fired his shot-gun at the crowd, loaded with squirrel shot, and this is supposed to have irritated Shumake's (if he was there) gangrenous erysipelas. Dickey (one of the kidnappers sent to the penitentiary) testified that himself, Shumake, and others, naming them, did kidnap Wm. Wade, and that on that unlawful association and performance, Shumake informed him that the death-notices had again that night been left at Steve Wade's house, and that when on the said kidnapping raid the said Shumake declared that he wanted to do the shooting, if any was to be done, that is provided the Wade's resisted the illegal carrying off of William Wade, then the shooting would be resorted to. Isaac Shively testified that Shumake had consulted him as to 'what was to

be done with the Wades,' saying further that a 'secret meeting was to be held to determine,' and to this Shively requested him to 'hold on,' and 'he would notify Wade of his danger and advise him to leave.' Shumake told the witness Commons, that 'the Wades were troublesome and ought to be out of the country.' He traced the riders' horse-tracks toward Shumakes. Dr. Morgan's testimony was 'gangrenous,' and if Shumake's hand did not sluff off under its ailment and the said Doctor's medicine, his testimony did sluff off and out under the testimony of several physicians. Rosa Holland testifies that Shumake told her that he had had a pitchfork run through his hand, and other witnesses that it was injured in handling lumber. Hedgepeth testified that in a 'mock (training) trial' they (several) had agreed to testify that the hand was sore a week before the murder. There was testimony that Shumake was at Union City on the day of the murder, some said in a top-buggy, and others that he rode in a wagon, and other testimony again showed that he was elsewhere on that day. Rube Goens testified that Shumake told him that he was at Jerry Middleton's the night of the murder, that Shumake afterwards said that if he had said so he must have been out of his mind. The Doctor dressed his hand early Sunday morning; had it tied up on Monday; Shumake told him the threatening notices were left at Steve Wade's on the night of the kidnapping of Wm. Wade. Moses Jefferson testified that Shumake had said to him that he was at Spartinburg on the night of the killing. The prisoner, testifying in his own behalf, contradicted Shively's testimony. How this happened, considering the well-planned programme of the defense, is not clear.

"The testimony as to the blood in the road near Wade's, that Shumake had been wounded by Wade's shot, and that a Doctor had been called to dress same, was common talk here a day or two after the murder.

"In the trial Shumake has had the advantage of numerous able counsel, whose fees, together with expenses to get good testimony, has cost him, we learn, from $8,000 to $10,000, so that on the score of business, that stolen quarter has proven a 'dear pig' to him. With 'mock trials,' and the chasing down of witnesses by the defendant's attorneys, they had the evidence before them before the trial began; even the witnesses for the State serving in the Penitenetiary, were visited and pumped by the said deft's att'ys. Important witnesses for the State, residing in Indiana, failed to appear - how much persuasion was put up to keep them away we do not know, and we are told that the prosecution had in its confidence, parties who gave the defense every information attainable.

"Abstractly considered the violation of the law's extreme punishment upon any criminal, thrills with sorrow and regret, and which is acquiesed in and indorsed only in the sense of its stern necessity, for the protection and well being of society. We must use every exertion possible to ferret out great crime and enforce the law's penalty, and especially the crime of murder by secret conspiracy and assassination.

"On Saturday, the argument of counsel commenced. For State, Prosecuting Attorney Henry Calkins and B. Collins; and for the defense, C.M. Anderson and Wm. Allen.

"At this writing (Monday morning) several of the counsel are yet to address the Jury.

"During Monday, Riley Knox and W.A. Bickle spoke on behalf of the defense, and J. Baker closed for the State. After the charge by the Court, the Jury retired for deliberation at 4:40 in the evening.

"When the Jury retired the impression was that either an agreement would be come to in an hour or so, else there would be an irrevocable disagreement. And when Tuesday morning came without a verdict, the reasonable expectation was that the Jury was permanently divided in opinion.

"The Jury stood on the first ballot, for conviction of murder in the first degree 5, and for acquittal 7, and after an all-night's session the vote stood 10 for acquittal and 2 for conviction of murder at 6 o'clock. But another vote at 6:15 was unanimous for acquittal. What facts and powerful argument changed the opinions of the five Jurymen who believed that the prisoner had been proven guilty, will perhaps ever remain unveiled to mystify the public mind.

"But as the old regulator, Shumake, has escaped the penalty of the higher grade of crime charged against him, through the questionable means hereinbefore pointed out as having been resorted by his Att'ys, and the direliction or entrapment of the prosecution on the other hand, he still stands indicted for the kidnapping of Wm. Wade, with the evidence as positive against him as was found sufficient to convict Albert Dickey, John Archey and Solomon Ferguson, and consign them to three years terms in the Penitentiary. It is not probable that he will stand trial on this latter charge, but rather forfeit his bond, which will to some extent re-imburse the county for its expense in the said murder trial farce.

"The defense made the mistake in allowing Dickey, et. al. to be first tried and convicted for kidnapping. These men, convicted and sent to the Penitentiary (for want of money to get good testimony and numerous able Att'ys) 'squealed' on their chief and other associates in the crime; and more, implicated them in the murder of Steve Wade. Here was the dilemma, and the counsel for the defense found that a change of tactics was necessary - that it would not do to allow Lewis Burden, indicted with Shumake for the murder of Wade, to be first tried, and for the want of attention, be convicted - that his 'squealing' then might be heavy against the moneyed chief, Shumake, and some twenty-five to fifty others. The old man, or his money, was in for it, the scent of which was savory to the taste epicurean, who would not touch the common Burden about to be sacrificed, and if a sacrifice he became he would likely drag down the fat fowls caged and to be caged - lucky thought, and happy circumstance for Lewis Burden, the indictment against whom conjointly with Shumake for the murder of Wade, was immediately nollied on the rendition of the Shumake verdict. The old man broke down during the trial and took his bed in the Court room. Was it because in his mind's eye, he occasionally caught glimpses of the murdered Wade, or in his innocence did he sicken at the thought of being charged with the cowardly and damnable murder. His counsel took the latter view, and while one of his counsel, Anderson, done the lip pathetic, another, Knox, fondled and caressed the 'gangrenous' shivering prisoner upon his couch. This part of the farce, we are informed, was indeed aflecting, as Anderson talked real pretty, and Knox makes a nice nurse."

First Grange Location

Anchor Grange - The German (Anchor) Grange was founded January 10, 1874. The first master was H.V. Armstrong.

Thurman House recalls his Grandmother (Stoner) Stingley talking of the first meeting place in an outbuilding at Will Jefferis' old brick house on Stingley Road.

In 1887, the Grange dedicated a new hall across from where Naomi Slick used to live. This was a two-story wooden frame building. Ruth Deeter remembers eating in the lower story then going upstairs for the meetings. She recalls they used tin cups to drink from a bucket of water. This building was destroyed by the 1920 tornado.

Following the 1920 tornado, the Grange met in the Palestine school house, the township house, and above Fergie's store where the Junior Lodge also used to meet.

They last met at the old Fairview Church. This old Fairview Church was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jefferis two years after the church abandoned.

"In 1887, the members of Anchor Grange, Darke County, dedicated a new hall. On Easter night 33 years later the hall was completely destroyed by a cyclone.

"Today, after renting a place to hold meetings since 1920, through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jefferis, 25-year members of the organization, the grange again has a permanent home, situated within a half mile of the original site.

"On the corner of the Jefferis farm was a Church property deeded for church purposes as long as it was so used. Two years ago the church was abandoned and the property returned to the owner of the farm. Out of appreciation and respect for the Grange, Mr. and Mrs. Jefferis donated the building for the permanent use of the organization.

"In the words of O.F. Wilt, the master, 'Although formerly dedicated as a Church, it will still stand as a symbol of fellowship and as a builder of character.' " (Old Grange Bulletin)

The "Greenville Advocate" in its 1933 article on the granges in Darke County includes, "Joshua Jefferis and J.W. Ware both of German (now Anchor) should receive special mention."

Tuesday night, January 11, 1938, "Mr. and Mrs. Will Jeffries entertained the members of the local grange to an oyster supper, in the grange hall. They even celebrated Mr. Jeffries' fiftieth consecutive year as a member of the grange; Mrs. Jeffries has been a member for forty-eight years. Congratulations to the faithful members." (Jan. 21, 1938 Palestine school paper)

"Sundays were visiting days, and the large gathering of relatives or neighbors at our house or theirs was a frequent occurance. Wednesday night was Grange night. Mrs. Chas. E. Harris, mother of George Harris, is credited with founding the 'Juvenile Grange', and we youngsters were under her leadership for some time. The Grange Hall, as we know it, stood by the road at the south edge of the Merle Graham farm, but it was destroyed by the tornado of 1920. 'German Grange' was changed to 'Anchor Grange' during World War I, just as German Twp. became Liberty Twp. When I became old enough to qualify I joined the adult Grange. It was a very nice social activity for the entire family, besides contributing to the solidarity of the farming group. In the Fall they always had a rabbit supper for everybody, with a contest in which the side bringing in the fewest rabbit ears was required to treat the other side on a later date. Every Grange meeting included a 'Literary Hour' during which the juveniles from downstairs were invited up to participate. So,

Participants in an early Junior Grange Exhibit at the Great Darke County Fair was the group pictured above. They are members of the German Juvenile Grange No. 1 who made an exhibit at the fair in 1904. Back row: (left to right) Carl Jefferis, Mae Lane Teaford, Hattie Harris who was the Grange Matron, Lottie Metzcar Pendulum, Clara Reigle Manning, Mabel Metzcar, Lucille McClure Barrington and Mae Jefferis Aukerman. Front row (left to right) James Harding, Harold McClure, Merle Jefferis Graham, Grace Jefferis Stewart, Merle Arnold Harris, James Aukerman and Fay McClure Drill.

along with the schools and the churches, the Grange encouraged and stimulated young people to perform before an audience. It seems to me that boys and girls of the present generation are being short-changed in this respect. Most of them remain spectators, and when called upon to express themselves seriously in public have an abnormal amount of fear to overcome." (Thomas Keener Wenrick)

Big Oak - "To the early settlers, Darke County wasn't too attractive. One pioneer went so far as to say that for him the woods of Darke had no charms. Around Greenville there were dense forests and impassible swamps which made road building difficult. The growth of hickory, walnut, oak, ash, and elm mingled with amples and undergrowth so thick that a horseman could not pass, and so tall that they made twilight even at noon. There were huge groves of oak, black, red, white, burr, and pin. In Liberty (German) there was an oak that measured over 6 feet across the stump, and had over 500 annual rings of growth. . ." ("Greenville Advocate")

"In the year 1883 there was cut down in German township an Oak that had a history. It measured over six feet across the stump, containing over five hundred annual rings of growth. It was in its most thrifty condition between two and three hundred years of age, from the fact of those annual growths were much larger and faster of growth than it was at the heart or bark of the tree. It was tall and symmetrical, with a broad and branching top. It was one hundred and nine years old when Columbus discovered America. It was three hundred and ninety-three years old when our fathers signed the Declaration of Independence." (1914 *History of Darke County,* Wilson, pg. 45).

Mad Turkey - "Jesse Brumbaugh, near Fort Jefferson, has a turkey gobbler that he doesn't think as much of as he used to. Jesse bought a new buggy of John O' Conner last week and all like a mirror, Jesse took the buggy home and in a short time his gobbler came along with his war paint on, saw his reflection in the bright panels of the vehicle and at once proceeded to whip at what he thought was the other gobbler. When he was discovered he had about all the varnish pecked and clawed off one side of the buggy." (1893 *"Greenville Democrat"*)

Surprise Party - "A Pleasant Surprise. On Friday evening, May 5, 1893 at the home of James K. Aukerman, 1¼ miles south of Palestine, German Township, occurred a very pleasant surprise. By a well and secretly planned arrangement of his wife at ½ past 8, her friends and neighbors, 130 of them, silently gathered in front of his home and with quiet and measured step passed around the foot of the hill south of the house and undiscovered, entered the new barn. Jim and his family, (except, his son Orville) having retired for the night. When everything was in readiness at the barn, Orville quietly called to his father to come to the barn - that his favorite horse General was sick. Jim hastened to the barn and just as he opened the doors a great shout of voices went up. Almost at the same time he was taken up by strong hands and lifted high above the crowd so everybody would see the effect. His countenance assumed several shapes and colors in a short time. Finally having sufficiently recovered self control to speak, he frankly acknowledged the sucess of the scheme and bid his friends and neighbors welcome. The ladies then took charge and in a short time tables were loaded with such things and in such a manner as only the good ladies of our land are able to accomplish. After all had partaken (and plenty left) the rest of the evening was spent in listening to the excellent instrumental music by Miss Miranda Wilcox, Messrs Lee Woods and Wilson Ketring. The crowd left, leaving the impression on Jim's mind that he will never pass his 49th birthday again, also wishing him a long life and prosperity." (1893 May *"Greenville Democrat"*)

Pioneer Association - From the "Greenville Democrat" August 1895 - "The 3rd annual meeting of the Pioneer Association of German, Harrison and surrounding townships will be held in Jesse Woods' grove one mile east and ¼ mile south of Palestine, Ohio, on September 1, 1895. Come and spend the day with the old folks and hear them sing the songs of half a century ago, see them brake, scutch, hackle, and spin flax, pick, card, and spin wool etc., old time implements, culinary and agriculture, will be there. Short talks on log rolling, cabin building, wheat harvesting, flail threshing, corn shuckings, wool pickings, and teaming. Come loaded with a short speech and your basket well filled and enjoy the day with us. Jesse Woods, Michael Noggle, Balser Horn, Committee James McCabe secretary."

Chatauquas - or farm fairs used to be held annually at Hollansburg.

Big Poplar - "The largest poplar tree in Darke county, and probably in the state was felled last Thursday on the farm of J.F. Ware, two miles north of Palestine, that measured 6 feet 2 inches in diameter at the stump and was 72 feet to the first limb and scales over 10,000 feet. The growth indicates that the tree was at least 250 years old. It was purchased before cut by E. Fields, of Union City, Indiana, for $160, he assuming all risks. It took four men three hours and 10 minutes to saw it down. Fifty-six people were present to see the monster fall. Though seemingly incredible four persons actually walked abreast on its mighty trunk after he had been laid low by the woodmen. Mr. Ware has owned the land upon which the tree stood since 1847. (*"Democratic Advocate"* January 1902.)

A March 1904 "Democratic Advocate" adds, "The transfer by Joshua Jefferies of the farm of the late Jacob T. Ware has brought to light some interesting facts. When Mr. Ware took up his farm in 1848 by warrant issued by United States in virture of service in the war of 1812 and signed by President Monroe. He cleared and subdued 120 acres of this land. In clearing this farm one tree was cut that will be long remembered by the people of German township. Talk about your kings of the forests. This most majestic tree was felled in 1902. When lying prone four persons walked abreast from the butt 72 feet to where the first limbs came out. It was a hickory poplar tree, whose blooms come the last of May and resembled a large yellow single tulip. The tree made six 12 foot logs which sawed 8,000 feet from the clear body logs. Several logs about, completed the amount almost 10,000 feet, enough fine quality lumber to build a fair-sized house. 246 rings of growth could be plainly counted, and as the heart was so very close grained it may have stood many more years than this."

Old Barney - "Fire Horse, Old Barney is Dead. Old Barney, one of the first fire horses to be installed at the Greenville fire department and who is remembered by fire laddies as the smartest animal ever owned by the city, is dead. After quitting the service he was purchased by James Wilcox, who resides on a farm south of Palestine, and it was on this farm that Old Barney choked to death last week on a feed of oats. Wilcox tells many funny things about the gallant old fire horse. With a team like Barney, he claimed he could farm half of German township, but he would have to do it Barney's way and many times he found out later that Barney's way was the best. Soon after Barney was made a ruralite, he left the field on a dead run for the house, taking with him the other horse, plow, man and all in response to Mrs. Wilcox's ringing of the dinner bell. Barney up to the day of his death was the 'biggest colt' on the farm, and yet the best horse Wilcox ever saw to break colts beside. He was 23 years old 'hale and hearty' when his untimely death came." (Old Greenville newspaper)

Longtown Band - Maze Clemens tells of the band his father William used to be in along with Zeb Bass's boys and Paxton, and others. Their instructor was from Spartanburg could not read music or did not know a note of music but insisted on perfection. The church used to have picnics where on Sunday they would go to a woods for service then have a picnic. The band would play for them.

Self Protective Association

The original Washington and German Horse Thief Association was organized January 13, 1847. David Putman was the last living of the original 31 charter members.

The purpose of the Washington and German Township Self Protective Association according to its constitution "is for its members to assist each other in the recovery of property stolen from the members thereof, and bring the thief, or thieves, to justice. To assist in the arrest and prosecution of any one committing violence on the person or family of any of its members and also assist in the apprehension or arrest of any felon within the State should the good of the public and safety demand it." The meetings were held at the Sharpeye School House twice a year and open to membership to Darke County residents.

The association provided insurance to the membership as indicated in Article X of the constitution: "Should the Association through its pursuers or otherwise foil to recover property stolen from any of its members within thirty days from the date of such theft such member, shall be remunerated to the extent of 2/3 the assessed valuation of the property stolen. Said insurance to be confined to horses, mules and cattle, and should such stolen property be recovered after 30 days from date of theft, such live stock shall be restored to the owner upon such owner refunding the amount paid him or as the Association so shall determine by majority vote."

1916 officers included: president W.E.G. Jefferis; V.O. Kerst, secretary; constitution revision committee members: B.G. Eidson, J.W. Ross, and B.F. Cole.

Sept. 4, 1894 the Association incorporated with the state of Ohio. Witnesses to the article of incorporation were: W.S. Ware, J.B.F. Jefferis, Wm. M. Wenger, Aaron Kerst, David Harter, Henry H. Fernsler, Royce G. Eidson, Benj. F. Chenoweth, J.M. Wenrick, W.H. Stingley, Joshua Jefferis, Jacob G. Ware, W.F. Heck, Harry A. Willson.

January 23, 1926, the association incorporated under the name The Ohio State Protective Association No. 22 of Greenville, Ohio. Their said corporation to be located at Palestine. The association had just joined The Ohio State Protective Ass'n in 1925. Those names on this article of incorporation were: J.C. Ross, H.R. Mikesell, Herbert L. Throp, H.L. Sellman, Leo Rush, W.E. House, Mac Ross, Chester A. Arnett, Web Snyder, J.W. Rose, R.M. James, Ira Baker, J.H. Eib, Wm. Miller, Iven F. Saylor.

A Contest for New Members - "To be held by the Self-Protective Association of Washington and German Townships - Two Teams to Whoop Things up - A Supper and Trimmings the Penalty for the Losing Team.

"The Self-Protective Association of Washington and German townships will have a contest to increase the membership of said Association. The members are to be divided as follows:

"First Division - J.W. Ross, Captain - J.K. Aukerman, Dr. Charles Baker, Harvey Burns, Oscar Biddle, John Crick, B.T. Chenoweth, John Dixon, A.W. Fernsler, T.M. Heck, W. Homan, O. Harter, W.M. Harter, Joshua Jefferis, H.M. Jefferis, H.L. Jefferis, W.A. Jefferis, W.K. Kester, O.E. Ketring, R.W. Lane, Jacob Miller, W.A. McCartney, John Mosier, I.V. Parent, Frank Rank, Russell Rank, W.W. Snell, L.B. Stump, L.E. Stephens, O.E. Stapleton, J.W. Spencer, Charles Smith, B.F. Thomas, Elijah Wilcox, G.T. Wilcox, Warren Ware, and V.D. Ware.

"Second division - B.F. Eidson, Captain - Hugh Armstrong, H.D. Baker, Vern Brown, D.M. Burns, O.L. Cox, B.T. Cole, J.A. Chenoweth, Perry Groendyke, C.A. Homan, Harvey Hill, Elmer Harter, C.T. Jefferis, W.E.G. Jefferis, Marvin Jefferis, George Koonts, George Kester, G.W. Manuel, Ben Miller, Perry McGriff, W.B. Knoll, A.S. Parent, J.C. Ross, Otta Rank, D.W. Shively, Web Snyder, B.F. Stump, Samuel Stapleton, Chas. Stover, W.M. Stingley, B.F. Skidmore, H.L. Throp, P.F. Wilcox, F.P. Ware, William Wenger, and T.M. Kester.

"The losing side will give a supper and entertainment to the winning side, at Palestine, on Saturday evening, December 28th.

"The member obtaining the greatest number of applications will receive a gold plated rural police badge; second prize, nickel-plated badge.

"All members are cordially invited to attend.

W.A. McCartney
W.E.G. Jefferis
H.M. Jefferis
Committee."

Notable Event at Palestine

Big oyster supper given Saturday night. (From Greenville paper 1/2/1913)

By the Washington-German Township Self-Protective Association - Three Hundred and Fifty Persons Attended Affair Which Was Given in Two Large Halls - Organization Has Been in Existence Since 1846.

At the October meeting of the Washington-German

Township Self-Protective Association, it was determined to make an effort to increase the membership, the members to be divided and the side losing in the contest to give an oyster supper.

This supper was given at Palestine Saturday night, December 28th, and about 350 persons attended. The side represented by B.G. Eidson won with 65 new members. J.W. Ross secured 50, Joe Ross of Palestine 40, Wes Ross 33.

The affair was probably the biggest event in the history of Palestine, and two large halls, the Junior and K. of P. were used to serve the supper.

The Washington-German Township Self Protective Association was organized in 1846 and is one of the oldest horse thief detective associations in Ohio. Since the association has been formed nine horses have been stolen in the territory where it exists, and of these six have been recovered.

There are now about two hundred members of the association, which is one of the strongest organizations of the kind in the State.

A Big Day at Palestine
October 8, 1914 Greenville Paper

The German and Washington Township Protective Association have arranged for a big time at Palestine on Saturday October 10th, when they will hold their First Annual Horse and Corn Show. The Committee wants all farmers to bring their good horses, mules and seed corn and help make next Saturday one of the biggest days ever held in Palestine.

Everybody is solicited to come. Dinner will be served and refreshments can be had by all. All horse entrance fees free and horses will be fed free. Following is the premium list:

Corn

$3.00 for best ten ears, any kind of field corn.
$2.00 for second best ten ears of any kind of field corn.
$1.00 for the third best ten ears of any kind of field corn.

Horses

$3.00 for best draft stallion, any breed, any size. Registered or grade.
Best farm team hitched, $3.00 for first prize, $2.00 for second.
Three-year-old and over draft mare, $2.00 for first prize and $1.00 for second.
Three-year-old and over gelding, $2.00 for first prize and $1.00 for second.
Two-year-old and over mare, $2.00 for first prize and $1.00 for second.
One-year-old and over mare, $1.00 for first prize and $1.00 for second.
One-year-old and over gelding, $2.00 for first prize and $1.00 for second.
Brood mare and colt, regardless of sex, $2.00 for first prize and $1.00 for second.
Best mare colt $1.00.
Best horse colt $1.00.
Three-year-old and over roadster, either sex, $2.00 for first prize and $1.00 for second.
Two-year-old and over roadster, either sex, $2.00 for first prize and $1.00 for second.
One-year-old and over roadster, either sex, $2.00 for first prize and $1.00 for second.
Best mule team hitched, $2.00 for first and $1.00 for second.
Entries must be in by 10 o'clock on day of show, October 10th.

Committee.

Underground Railroad - "Fugitives would often stop and attend school for awhile at the institute (Union Literary Institute). At one time there were ten at school together. Gangs of fugitives used to come to the institute. At one time fifteen came in one company. It was a woman and her ten children, a son-in-law and a grandchild, and two others. The woman and children belonged to one man, and they were all he had. She was asked, 'Were you not used well?' 'Yes'. 'Why did you run away?' 'My children were my master's, and the mistress and the white children wanted us to be sold, and we thought it time to quit.' " (Pg. 758, *History of Randolph County*)

"Maze Clemens, a descendant of the first president of the original charter (Union Literary Institute), who still lives on the property, remembers his Grandpa, Wesley, telling of stealthy nighttime trips to Newport (Fountain City), 'where escapees were hidden under false wagon bottoms to be transported to the next station, along a well-organized network, while eluding crafty slave hunters.' 'They were well hidden, by day, before going on to the next station,' he said. So well hidden were they along that now ancient route, that a family in the area just recently discovered a hidden room under the dining room in their home. The shuffling and scraping of many restless and nervous feet are evidenced by indentations on the benches the family found in the hidden room." ("The Muncie Star", August 30, 1981)

They sometimes hid out in the Longtown area, then Wesley would haul them to Paulding County where they were considered safe.

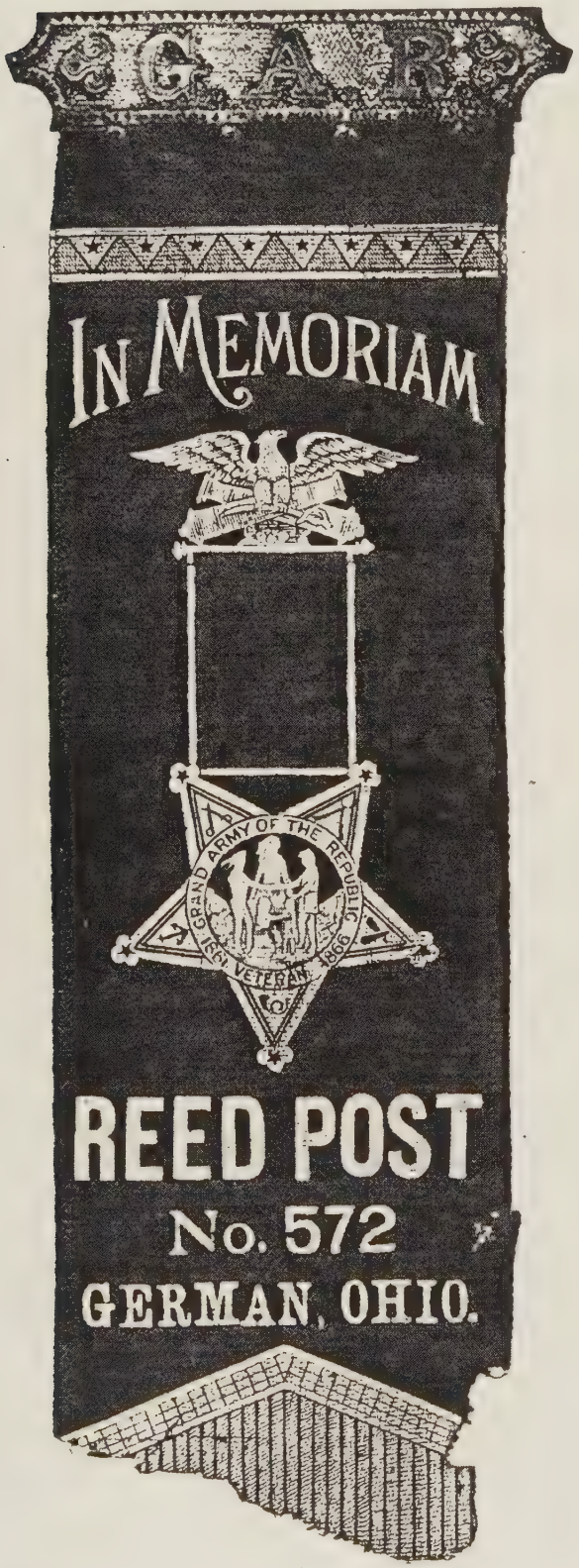
Hollansburg Pie Suppers - "In H-burg we had pie suppers and the girls would bring a pie and two forks. They would stand behind a sheet with a strong light behind them and fellows would 'buy' the shadows, trying to recognize the girl whose pie they wanted to share." These occurred around 1905 as related by Ethel (Lovin) Fisher.

Circus to Palestine - From 1910 to about 1914, the circus used to set up where the 1923 school house is now. The circus also has set up across from where the saw mill was.

The circuses were originally pulled into town by horses. They showed most of the time in the Simison pasture north of where Bill Perry now lives. Herman Ross remembers carrying water to the horses, ponies, and zebras to get a free pass to the circus.

A Colored Society - "The colored people of this city, the Tampico Settlement, and the colored people of Union City, have formed a secret organization which has been accepted by the organization in Indiana and Ohio as a member. The Society is known as the 'Pleasure Secret Society'. The local organization is No. 32 and was installed Tuesday evening

with the following officers: Pres. Miss Cassie Burden, V.P. Johnny Settel, Sec. Miss Callie Clemens, Treas. Miss Mary Williams, Chief Executor Miss Ida Burden, Chaplain Mrs. John Williams, Gen. Mgr. John W. Williams." (1905 newspaper clipping)



Reed Post - Named in honor of Thomas Reed who enlisted at Palestine, Ohio and was killed at Resaca Georgia, the first martyr that Darke Co. laid on the altar of its country. Reed Post was organized Feb. 22, 1886, having 20 charter members.

K. of P. Bean Supper - The Knights of Pythius started in 1905 or 1906. Their building built 1907. They used to sponsor oyster suppers and bean suppers. The bean suppers remains a traditional social event for Palestine. The K. of P. gave up their charter 1975.

"In the past years it has been customary to hold a bean supper at the school house. It is usually held the latter part of October, the price has always been ten cents a ticket, and anyone with a ticket is entitled to a free supper.

"After the supper hour those who are masked parade around the gym floor while the judges pick the winners. The school band furnishes music for the parade and between halves of the basketball games, which are played between the Alumni and high school squads. The Alumni Squad usually is the victor but the high school is favored to win this year. The girls do not have an organized team this year making it doubtful as to whether they will play at the Bean Supper as they have in the past.

"A large crowd is expected to attend this annual celebration as the school house has always been packed in the past. A good time is enjoyed by everyone; so come one, come all to the bean supper." (1938 "Recorder")

K. of P. Hall - Dances and home talent plays were held above Ben T. Miller's hardware store. "Then we were regaled by a Riley program on October 7, 1913, with visiting Elocutionist Linnie Browder Burns, who gave us - 'The Raggedy Man', 'That Old Sweethart of Mine', and 'Elizabeth Ann', in Hoosier dialect. And Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wilson secured the services of William Knight, who gave a most realistic enactment of the Civil War Andrews Raid, when a carefully planned bit of sabbotage captured the famous 'General', the most important railroad engine of the Confederacy. They succeeded in damaging several miles of the vital railroad which ran from Atlanta to the Tennessee border, but were captured and several of them were hanged. Mr. Knight and several others tunnelled out to dubious freedom, but did survive to tell the story. That was a spine chiller!" (Mary Flo Dickey's notes)

Billy Hoeffer - The 'marrying and burying preacher' -"No one knows just how many couples he united, or how many persons he sped to a better land with his comforting funeral sermons. He was non-sectarian - 'I can give you a sermon for any faith, up to Roman Catholic,' he said modestly. He had been on the vaudeville stage in his youth, his son Foster Hoeffer was on the legitimate stage, and his grandson, Norman Foster Hoeffer, was a film favorite of the Twenties and Thirties, with his wife, Claudette Colbert." (Mary Flo Dickey's notes)

Jolly Young People of the '90's - taken about 1898, left to right, standing: Mrs. (Aukerman) Wolfard, Ed Stahr, Nell Harp, Orville Aukerman, Oltie Aukerman, Frank Dickey. Seated, left to right: Mr. Wolfard, Mae Tucker, Albert 'Alby' Hill, Elma Jefferis (Mrs. Vern Brown), Roll Owens, Elsie Harding. Marvin Jefferis and Ressie Hill in front.

Jolly Young People of the 90's - This group of young people met socially in the 1890's. This picture was taken at the Hill place ½ mile west of Palestine on the south side of 36. Their last reunion was held 1914 at the home of Lee Woods south of Palestine. Two died tragically. Mae Tucker wore yards of ribbon around her neck as was the fashion at that time. The ribbon caught fire from a gasoline stove explosion around 1899, and she died of burns. Ed Stahr went west and was shot by a brother of a young lady he knew.

Gypsies - Chalmer Harding says they used to come twice a summer. They told fortunes and begged. Croppy tells how they would watch very carefully when they came into Fergy's store. They would all want waited on at once. Knowing they were going to steal something, the gypsies were overcharged for anything they bought that had to be weighed on the scales. The kids got some onion sets that were outside. The gypsies came up until the early 30's. They used to always camp at the Sink Hole by Ansonia, several tribes of them. They usually came from the west and went east. They had a leader who was the boss. The women wore full skirts with lots of pockets and low necked blouses to attract attention. They sometimes wore bandanas or scarfs around their heads. Some of the men also wore bandanas. Some wore very bright, bold colors.

"The Old Home Folks" left to right: Jeff Cole, Ester H. _____, Eugene D., Eliz. Pierce, Harry Philip, Ethel Philip, Kenneth Woods, Goldie Harsh, Frank Mills, Hazel Tharp.

Omar Dill recalls they camped one night at the ball park when they first started. Herman Ross relates that most were horse traders, and often camped in old school yards where they could pump water. They once camped near John B. Miller, and turned their horses loose on his field. John said, "tie them horses up or I'll put them in my barn," they then tied up the horses. In later years, some from West Virginia came through Palestine in automobiles. They would stop and go in Fergie's store. They stole and lived off the land.

Ruth (Light) Deeter recounts while a child walking in a furrow in the field with her father where they lived on Stingley Road - she saw a gypsy man get out of wagon and walk up their lane to the house. The wagon continued on. The gypsy asked for bread and potatoes. Ruth's mother had just finished baking a loaf of bread, and gave the loaf to the gypsy. She may have also given some potatoes. The gypsy walked back the lane. Ruth does not know if the wagon had gone to beg at another house or what but supposedly the man must have met up with the wagon later. Ruth recalled another time when a wooden, square-topped, enclosed gyp-

sy wagon stopped and camped overnight under a tree at the end of Clark Station Road near her home.

Frank Baker, "Gypsies try to fleece you. They were pretty common, more so in the warmer weather. Some were great horse traders - trading a horse with heaves or a balker for a good horse. They told fortunes."

Keith Bussey adds in Miami County, the kids in camp would turn over rotted logs to get the grubs and pop them in their mouths. They spoke a foreign language in camps - probably eastern European like Hungarian. They seemed always to need a chicken to make soup for a sick grandmother.

Keith Stephens recalls they would stop at the Nashville Store and at Sharpeye. Cappie (Heck) Warvel recalls when her father was taking a wagon of corn past the Fairview Church where the gypsies were put up, that they talked Charles Heck down off the horse and wagon to tell his fortune. While they were telling his fortune, others stole corn from his wagon to feed their horses. Also, Cappie recalls gypsies coming to Mrs. Throp's. One occupied her attention at the front door while another gypsy entered the rear door to steal some bread rising in the kitchen.

Nellie Fowble recalls large strings of gypsy wagons would come every summer, and park on the road between the double woods just north of Baker Store. The wagons would park alternately on each side of the road so anyone passing through on the road would have to go slow to "snake" through the wagons. The gypsies would spread out in all directions to beg for food.

Of gypsies, Leola Edger remembers shawls, babies crying, and smoke from the stovepot chimneys in their wagons. They also seemed always to have Piebold horses in the Montgomery County area - dark, hammer ear, with white spot on head.

Palestine Band - In the early 1900's, the Palestine band included Jim Wilcox as band leader, Newt Wilcox, Ol Perry, Henry Hiper, Frank Harding, Dave Ross, Ben Miller on the bass drum, and Stover. After the K. of P. came into existance, the Lodge had a band, and, as many of the original band members were also in the Lodge, they became the K. of P. band.

Oil Line - In 1913 Standard Oil laid the oil line through the south edge of Glen Karn to Richmond. Lawrence Goens and Edgar Clemens each had a team of horses and they worked there hauling wagons of pipe from New Paris and Richmond. Lawrence recalls that the ditch was hand dug by Italians, most of whom could not speak English. They camped at Middleborough. The ditches then were covered with slip scoops. A hundred teams of horses were used. In 1963 another line was buried, the methods had changed considerably in fifty years.

Palestine Band (1907) — taken in front of where firehouse is now. Mary Warvel's house in background. Platform scales to left of photo. Front row, left to right: Billy Keister, Charley Harp, Charlie Owens?, Phil Saylor, Frank Klinger, Charley Stover, Lloyd Brown. Back row, left to right: Levi Woods, Louis Aukerman, Mac McCabe, Ben Ketring, Jim Wilcox, Henry Hiper, Frank Harding.

Crazy Man has Town on Edge - "Barricaded in house, defies officers and citizens. Officers shot at when they try to reach man who, with an uncle and mother, have locked themselves in house and threaten to shoot the first person who comes on premises - attendants for State Hospital go to scene to arrest the lunatic, but give the matter up as bad job when they take in the situation.

(From Friday's Daily) "Palestine, this county, is now in the throes of excitement and fear. Oliver Price, a crazy man who lately escaped from the Dayton State Hospital, has returned to his home in that village and has barricaded himself in the home of his mother, Mrs. Susan Price, who, with her assistance and that of an uncle, Mart Price, are defying the citizens and officers to arrest Price.

"Several days ago the local police received word from Dayton that Price had escaped from the asylum at that place, and that he would in all probability return to his home at Palestine, and if he did to arrest him and notify the Superintendent of the hospital. Thursday night Chief of Police Lynch received word that Price was at the home of his mother at Palestine, and Officers Bell and McGriff were detailed to go out and make the arrest.

"When the officers went to the home of Price's mother they were shot at by Price and his relatives and had to retreat out of range of the guns. They remained all night trying to make the arrest, with the assistance of some of the citizens, but each attempt to reach the house was met with gun shots from the barricaded house, but no one was wounded.

"The officers, after conferring with the local authorities, phoned to the State Asylum and two of the attendants, E.L. Tibbles and J.C. Boond, were sent here and went at once to the scene of trouble, but after taking in the situation they returned to Greenville and conferred with Sheriff Burns and Judge Boli, and at the time of going to press the conference is still in progress. It is thought developments will take place in a few hours." ("Greenville Journal", October 8, 1914)

Crazy Man Defies Arrest - "Orville Price, with uncle and mother, is barricaded in his mother's home at Palestine and all efforts to arrest him have been futile - parties shot at when they go near the house.

"Up to noon Saturday Orville Price, the lunatic, who with his mother, Susan Price, and uncle, Mart Richard have been defying the citizens of Palestine and officials to arrest young Price, and are still barricaded in their home at Palestine. All efforts of persuasion to get them to come out and give themselves up have proven futile.

"Watchers near the Price home state that all day Friday the inmates of the house were busily engaged in nailing the doors of the house shut and nailing the windows down. It is evident that they expected to make a fight if an attempt is made to take them.

"The citizens of Palestine are all worked up and many fear that Price may break out and go on a rampage and some one will be hurt. A couple of days ago a man by the name of Jefferies drove up the street in his auto and stopped near the Price home and was about to turn around in his machine, when he was greeted with a fusillade of shots from the inmates of the house. It is thought that Price, in his hallucination, thought that the auto contained officers from the asylum and that they were coming to take him back to Dayton.

"The authorities hardly know what to do in the matter, as some one would certainly be killed if an attempt was made to get in the house, as Price and his relatives have every advantage, the house standing off by itself, and any one getting within gun shot would certainly get hurt, as they have threatened to kill any officer who attempts to take them. It is thought that some developments will take place in the next few hours.

"Price has escaped three times from the asylum, and Darke County people are of the opinion that the authorities at that institution should use more precaution with dangerous patients who have inclinations to run away from the hospital. Price was committed to the Dayton institution when he lived at Painter Creek. He went on a rampage at that place and took a revolver and threatened to kill some people at that time." ("Greenville Journal", Oct. 8, 1914)

Name Change - "The first settlers of the township were either all German, or of that descent, and the bailiwick was named German in honor of these grand old tamers of the wilderness, and when a post office was asked for in the plat Sam Loring had laid out in sections 14 and 15, for some unexplained reason it, too, was called German, instead of Palestine, but was later changed by petition. For years without number, things went along in the township, no one questioning the wisdom of the appropriateness of the name it bore; then the World War flared up, and the younger element, fired with patriotism, lined up nearly every person in the township, and with 'Uncle Sam' and 'Miss Columbia' leading the van, marched on the courthouse at Greenville, and asked the commissioners to change that name that smakked too much of the kaiser, to Liberty, and their plea was granted." (1933 "Dayton Daily News")

The name of German Township was changed to Liberty Township between April and September, 1918. Col. Bill North addressed the residents in the center of town, regarding the changing of the name, due to the War. (Ada Mikesell and Helen Graham 1976, *"History of Palestine"*)

German Township wants name changed. "Patriotic residents of German township are busy circulating a petition which will be presented to the County Commissioners, requesting that the name of the township be changed from German to 'Liberty' township. Notice of the circulating of the petitions has been given, and it is expected the petition will be ready for the commissioners within a month.

"The patriotic citizens who started the petition are to be commended, and it is hoped they will be successful." (4-3-1918 newspaper)

Thomas K. Wenrick Notes - "I had ice skates, and skated with Earl and Forrest Miller on a small pond NW of the church. Later on, Herman Ross and I used to sweep off the snow from the tiny Lee Woods pond (Herman Ganger, now) and from temporary ponds in the fields. We worked hard for a little fun, but never counted the cost. We simply *had* to skate. Herman's family had a black horse called Old Easter the he sometimes rode out to our place. Sometimes we would both ride at once.

"I earned my first wages helping Herschel Ross (presently Bussey potato farm) make hay at $1.00 a day. The standard wage for men doing farm work was $2.00 a day at that time.

"A few of our neighbors (Metzcars, for one, in the present Ralph Hoblit house) installed Delco generators and a big bank of batteries and wired their houses for lights. But

most of us continued to use kerosene lamps until the electric line was built along Clark Station Road and into Palestine. Then we hurried to have our houses wired.

"We lived well on eggs and fried chicken, as we always had chickens. I carried my lunch to school at Palestine (no cafeterias then), and often we would have a fried chicken in the morning (or the night before) with two choice pieces reserved for my lunchbox.

"In those days when the creek needed dredging, it was done with horses and a scoop, with a long line or cable connecting them. One man would drive the team, and another would handle the scoop.

"Usually we milked from four to six cows. I did my part by milking one or two, both morning and evening. We had a DeLaval cream separator in the corner of the kitchen, and I often cranked that to separate the cream from the skim milk. We had a cooling trough of cold water in the cellar, where crocks and jars of cream were placed.

"In 1922 or 23 I bought a Crosley radio receiver, with three sets of headphones and a Magnavox loudspeaker separate from the set (with a big horn like the old Victor phonographs). Tuning was difficult, and reception was poor, but it was a fascinating experience, and we used it a lot that year, depending much of the time on the headsets. In those days Pittsburgh and Schnectady were the strongest stations."

Miami Valley Flood 1913 - looking south from bridge at Mace house on Route 36.

Tornadoes

1920 Tornado - Without question, the most damaging tornado of all was the March 28, 1920 cyclone that occurred in conjunction with storms that struck eight central west and southern states, killing 161 people and injuring about 2000.

The "Democratic Advocate" April 1, 1920, headlined with "Eight may diemore than thirty seriously injured - over 300 made homeless - fifty homes are destroyed."

Actually two cyclones had damaged Darke County. The first starting near Arba then traveling northeast through Tampico, the Shade's, Ft. Recovery Pike, then back toward Union City. The second cyclone hitting the Lightsville and New Weston areas then going into Mercer County. The tornado traveled at a speed of 50 mph with winds at the core estimated to be 200-300 mph.

This cyclone did great damage to Liberty township people and property. The Advocate records these quotes:

"The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. (Omer) Heck was blown out into the orchard by the cyclone and was found there dead. This discovery was not made until some little time after the cyclone had passed over this home.

"The worst shock of the storm was administered at the home of the Shades. Eleven people gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Park Shade on the township road. Of these eleven people one was killed and nine injured all seriously.

"These people included the Brysons, Hecks, and Shades. All the members of these families with the exception of an infant child of the Hecks suffered injuries when the house in which they were stopping collapsed."

People whose property was struck by the tornado's path included John King, two mile west of Palestine, Omer Heck, Ben Cole, Jeff Kuntz, Homer Jefferis, Herman Westfall (Carrol Puckett old place), Herb Light, Shade farm (Paul Wolf farm), Armacost, William Smith.

Besides the people affected, the tornado's path destroyed the Anchor Grange, Dininger Church, and Mt. Pleasant Church buildings.

Mahlon and Marie Smith's little girl had flesh torn away to expose her beating heart - she lives.

Also the Olwines on Heller Road were killed. The Octogon house on 571 and the Lindamood School on 49 were hit by the tornado.

An operating table was improvised in the Armacost home to accomodate the injured in that area. Several doctors came there to help. At one time seven doctors were in the home, although not all operating. A plea was made for "the little Shade girl" in the paper, and clothes, food, etc. came pouring in the following day. Neighbors gathered and boarded up damaged houses. "The Evening Times" of Union City, March 31, 1920 recorded, "On many farms through the storm section neighbors and friends are engaged in clearing away the ruins. Hay, corn, and other crops and everything perishable is being moved to a place of protection."

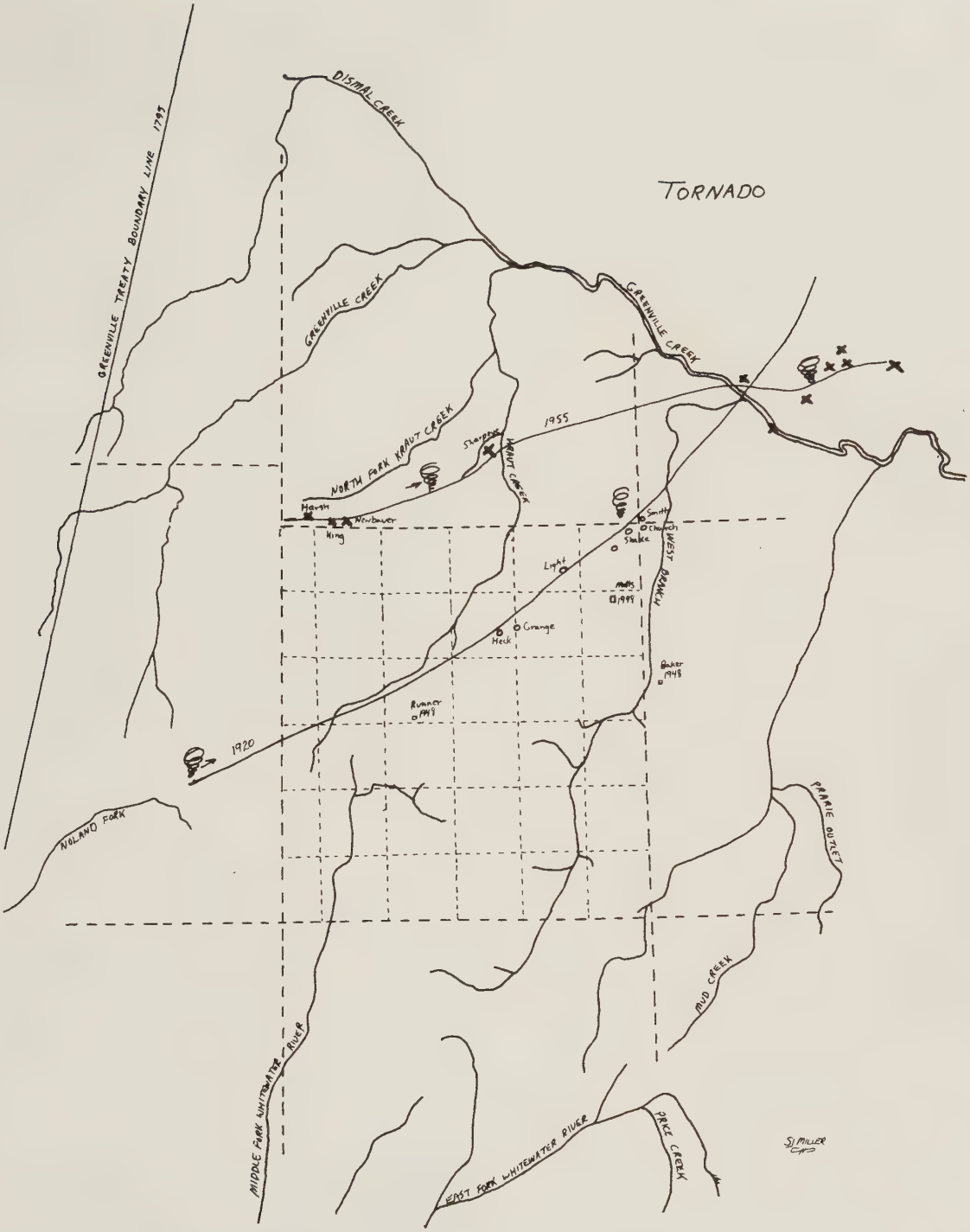
One newspaper gives this account of the 1920 tornado:

"The first evidence of the storm was found at a point about one mile south of Nashville, where the house and all buildings were laid in waste and the buildings were reduced to small pieces of boards and bricks. It was at the Heck home where the little two year old son was killed, when he was blown into the orchard and died from a broken neck. The storm demon jumped from the Heck home to that of Ben Cole on the road south of Nashville. At this place the large barn and other out buildings were completely destroyed by being driven to the ground by the terrific force of the wind, much of the timbers were blown in all directions. The house on this farm was also badly damaged the north end being torn away, and a nearby shed was badly wrecked.

"It is on one edge of the Cole farm that the Anchor grange hall stood. Nothing remains of this building but a small pile of twisted boards and timbers.

"From the Cole farm the terrible gale jumped across the road to the farm of Jeff Kuntz, where the roof of the house was blown off and the buildings on the place were completely wrecked. Large trees were uprooted by heavy winds of this farm.

"The next farm that was badly struck by the swirling cyclone was that of Homer Jefferis, about a mile northeast of the Kuntz farm. The upper story of the large brick house



of this farm is almost all blown down and the front part of the house and porch is blown down. This farm is occupied by Herman Westfall - and when the storm started Mr. Westfall stepped to the back door to look out and see what damage the wind was doing, the heavy wind threw him violently to the ground and he was rolled to the barn about 100 feet distant where his body was jammed in between two timbers, portions of the barn, which was almost completely demolished, fell over the prostrate man, and that his life was not crushed out seems almost a miracle. But after the storm had spent its fury, Mr. Westfall extracted himself from his perilous position and went to the house, where he found his wife uninjured, like himself. In the front yard of the Jefferis farm the large stately trees were uprooted by the terrific force of the winds.

"The cyclone bounded along in a northeasterly direction from the Jefferis farm to the Herb Light farm, where much damage was done, then sweeping many small buildings in its path until it came to the Shade farm right at Turkey Center on the Nashville pike. All the buildings on this farm were reduced to a pile of wreckage. Large timbers that had been hewn out of solid logs, some of them almost fifty feet in length, were hurled in every direction, and some of them landed clear across the road on the Armacost and Smith farms. This is where the five members of the Shade family and Roscoe Bryson and wife were injured, an account of which is made in another part of this paper.

"The Dininger Lutheran Church, located a short distance

from the Shade farm, was almost completely demolished. This structure was built of brick. The roof was blown away, the windows all blown in and part of the brick wall gave way under the strain of the winds. A large barn right behind the church was badly damaged. The roof, which was of tin, was almost completely blown off. Parts of this tin roof were hurled through the air and scattered in all directions. Many pieces of this tin roof can now be seen hanging from the tops of the large trees fifty or more feet in the air.

"The force of the storm did considerable damage to the buildings on the Armacost farm, directly across the road from the Shade farm.

Just east of the Armacost farm across the road at Turkey Center the storm did much damage to the Wm. Smith farm. The barn was blown to pieces and scattered in all directions over the farm. The house was badly damaged, the roof and part of the upper story being blown away, and the building was twisted on its foundation.

"From Turkey Center the storm sped on its way, uprooting trees, tearing down fences and demolishing small buildings until it came to the old Mills farm on the Winchester pike."

May 2, 1948 - May 2, 1948, twin twisters struck hitting both east and west of Greenville.

"The first twister, moving in a northeasterly direction, hit in the Palestine and Baker's Store vicinity at about 4 p.m. Sunday.

"At the Louis Laux farm, north of Palestine, a large barn was virtually riddled while on the adjoining Harris farm, which is uninhabited, another barn was torn down and the roof of the house was caved in.

"At the edge of Baker's Store both a barn and shed on the Elvin Murphy farm were blown down and wood and debris from the barn was driven into the side of the house ripping open several gaping holes. The Murphy's two young sons were alone in the residence when the storm broke and they took refuge in the basement, escaping injury.

"A garage at the Etta Kester residence just north of Greenville on the Fort Recovery road was leveled and at the adjoining William Steinmetz place a barn was partially unroofed.

"The Darke County Fish and Game Club, which occupies the old Greenville waterworks building west of Greenville on the Winchester Pike, was also hard hit with a slate roof being blown off.

"Sweeping northeast, the cyclone struck heavily at the Oscar Riegle farm on route 118, the Greenville-Ansonia road and at a neighboring farm tenanted by Orville Enicks." (May 3, 1948 Advocate)

The May 4 Advocate records, "The Store at Baker's Store was damaged and a roof was torn off the Arthur Price home near by. The barn on the Frank Baker farm was riddled and the roof was ripped off the A.D. Adkins barn.

"A tobacco shed on the adjoining Sargent Brothers farm was flattened and two barns damaged.

"North of Palestine the Carl Mills farm was hard hit. Roofs were blown off the barn and residence and a chicken house was destroyed.

"Two miles west of Palestine the twister leveled a large barn on the Dellis Runner farm, killing one cow and several hogs."

1955 Tornado - On November 15, 1955, another tornado struck the area. This tornado started in Indiana and first struck the barn of Don and Mary Harsh. It continued its paths damaging buildings on the farms of Rufus King, Isaac Newbauer. In and around Sharpeye property of Joe Cole, Mrs. Parl Townsend, Herb Stromer, Frank Teaford, and Orval Mong were damaged.

In the White Springs Golf Course area, the tornado struck property of Walter E. Browne, J.C. Roll, Norman Stebbins, CCC grain bins, Myron Godown, and Lloyd Brown.

The tornado then veered northward at William Schafer on route 49 damaging property of Jerome Wallischeck and Raymond Spencer and also hitting the farm of Wayne Palmer two miles north of Greenville on 118.

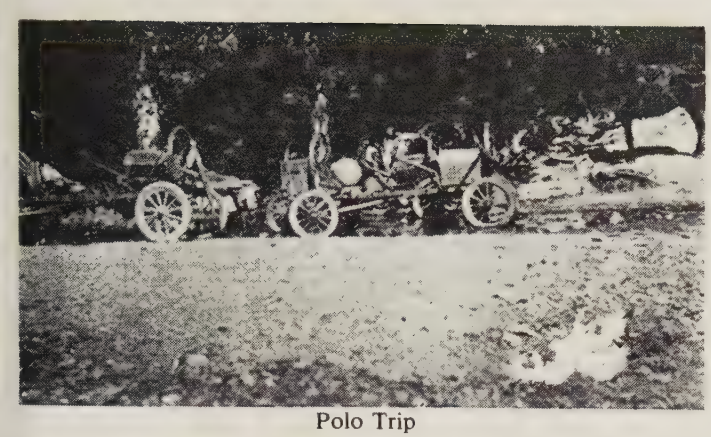
Willard Parent's Show - Lacy Saylor started working for the show at age 16 in 1922 riding Bucking Ford Model "T". The front wheels fell off and Lacy rode in the "saddle". Another event sponsored over the years in Willard's traveling shows was auto polo. Men rode on the back of autos with a club to play polo. Push Ball used a six foot diameter ball bumped by Model "T" bumpers. The show at one time had hot air balloons heated on the ground by gasoline torches. The person would ascend then drop to the ground in a parachute.

A few years, Willard had a human cannon. He traveled all over the United States as free attractions at fairs and carnivals. Those working for the show included: Lacy Saylor, Buck Lowdenslager, Scoot Clapp, Marion Clapp, Bill Brooks, Fishbach, Ralph Wilson, Sid Stephens, Bill Deeter, and Frank Teaford. Willard also promoted auto races, motorcycle races, and head-on collisions. Willard got killed about 1938 in Oklahoma while tearing down a Loop-a-Plane.

"O.E. (Buck) Lowdenslager joined a barnstorming stunt troop using old Model T Ford cars. He started in 1926 helping Willard Parent organize the troupe of 10 members that practiced in a pasture field west of Palestine.

" 'Parent was the owner and furnished the cars and the others built the cars up in his garage and kept them going,' recalled Lowdenslager. 'We took the bodies off old Model T Fords and put on roll bars. We used reverse instead of brakes because reverse held up better and gave control almost like present automatic transmission.' " (*Journal Herald* 1966)

Parent's Cannon



Polo Trip

Oral and Norma Londenslager 1924 or 25 (bumper ball).

Oral Lowdenslager - bumper ball car.

Baseball Fields - The first baseball diamond was east of the roadside rest on 36 on the south side of the road. The second field was south of Palestine across from where Fred Clark lives. It is possible that Jess Haines, baseball Hall of Famer, may have pitched for Palestine in the fall when the pro season was over. Homer Ross thought the years to be 1916 or 1917. The third field is at the present Recreation Park.

The lighted ball park was provided in 1948 by the Palestine Recreation Park, Inc. Go cart races were active from 1961 to 1965. Tractor Pulls also promoted in 1962 and after. One summer the Indianapolis Clowns entertained at the park. The town council provided a new playground in 1975 on Main Street, for games of tennis, basketball, etc.

Palestine 1920's ball team - first row sitting down: Charles Bollinger, Willard Clapp, George Baker, Deo Teaford, Chester Stump. Second row, standing up: Ed Jefferis, Thurl Stephens, Orello Clapp, Chester Arnett, Carl Jefferis, Herbert Stromer, Joe Manning, Earl Arnett.

Palestine Dances - Ben T. Miller was the caller, and Joe Ross took the money at early dances above the K. of P. Hall. Omar Dill recalls both square and round dances like the Virginia Reels. No band as such, but maybe a couple fiddlers, a piano and caller.

Guy Lowdenslager and Herman Ross ran round dances for five or six years about 1918-1922. The town at that time had a rule that dances had to be invitational, but no one was excluded that didn't have a pass.

The K. of P. sponsored a dance every other Wednesday with euchre parties on the other Wednesdays through the 40's. Dances were discontinued awhile and then held again until about 1955. The K. of P. had to pay licenses and union prices and could not keep up economically. Kruckebergs sponsored a few dances above the K. of P. in 1963 or 1964. The girl scouts sponsored some record hops to make money to go to the 1965 World's Fair.

From 1935 into the 1940's a group of friends and neighbors met at each other's homes, square dancing in an old house, a hay mow, or their houses once a month or every two weeks. Al Henning and William Smith played violins and John Shade called. Couples included Thurman Houses, Earl Houses, William Smiths, Earl Smiths, Earl Jefferis's, John Shades, Charles Sharps, Roy Stockers, and Ralph Myers.

Free Shows - Palestine used to have free movie shows. Behind Zene Teaford's on a yellow barn, and north side of the K. of P. Hall were two of the locations.

Palestine Centennial Celebration Planned - Palestine, Ohio Oct. 14 - "Plans are moving forward rapidly for the observance of the centennial anniversary of this town on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 21 and 22. A number of committees have been named to arrange for numerous events to form parts of the celebration, and these committees report the program well advanced.

"Principal speakers scheduled to take part in the program for the two days are Rev. C.W. Hoeffer, Rev. Frank Royer, pastor of the local Christian Church, and Col. W.E. North, of Greenville.

"Arrangements for the celebrations are being headed by Ben T. Miller, general chairman, who is assisted by a committee composed of Herschel Jeffries, secretary; Verle Hiatt, Chalmer Mosier, Flory Mills, Willard Parent and Lacy Saylor.

"A tire marathon at 10 a.m. Saturday will start the program. The contest is open to boys up to 14 years of age. Contestants will start from Greenville, New Madison, Hollansburg, Sharp Eye, and the Ohio-Indiana state line.

"The next event will be a coon chase at 10:30 o'clock, open to all dogs. A colt show will take place at 12 o'clock. Everyone is invited to enter his colts. A pulling contest will be held at 1:30 p.m. Teams will pull according to their weight.

"At 2:30 p.m., The Palestine Independents will play the Arcanum nine at the local ball park. An old time dance will

be given Saturday night in the K. of P. hall. A horseshoe tournament and checker tournament will be in progress both days.

"On Sunday an antique parade will open the program at 10 a.m. Col. W.E. North will deliver an address at 1:30 p.m. At 2 p.m. there will be an old fiddlers' contest.

"Another ball game will be played at 2:30 p.m. with Palestine stacking up against the Greenville Merchants. There will be a balloon ascension at 4:30 p.m.

"Committees in charge of special events have been named as follows:

"Colt Show - Verle Hiatt and Homer Ross.

"Coon Chase - Roscoe Lane, Ed Lindamood, Ollie Leedom and Dan Cotter.

"Pulling Contest - Carry Flatter and Herschel Jeffries.

"Baseball - Walter Bratschi.

"Antique Parade - Merle Becker and Flory Mills.

"Checker Tournament - Claude Hayes.

"Horseshoe Pitching - Cleo Spencer and Damon Auker-man.

"High School Band Contest - W.O. Parent and Verle Hiatt.

"Old Fiddlers - Jesse Woods.

"It is announced that on both Saturday and Sunday nights a masquerade dance will be held. Merchants of the community are cooperating to provide interest in the various contests. The public will be invited to take part in the festivities."

Palestine Centennial Celebration is Closed - "Two-Day Program Commemorating 100th Anniversary of Ohio Town is Witnessed by Large Crowd - Col. North Pleads for Conservation.

"Palestine, Ohio, Oct. 23 - The two day program commemorating the towns centennial year came to a close Sunday with appropriate exercises witnessed by a large crowd in attandance during the afternoon.

"The parade, band concert, old fiddlers' contest, potato race, ball game and balloon ascension and other activities followed one another in rapid succession which kept the crowd unmindful of the inclement weather that caught many of the visitors unprepared for the chilly breezes.

"Col. William North of Greenville, principal speaker of the afternoon warned the people of their mode of living which is bringing on much of the so-called depression and pleaded with them to go back to the conservative ways of their ancestors such as started the town and made the country what it was.

" 'Very few people are doing anything at present,' he said. 'We are all following leaders and do not know the leaders. If the leaders are blind and the Bible is true as we know it is, it is a case of the blind leading the blind and you know the inevitable results.'

"Mr. North exphasized his remarks by saying, 'You can not run a store or a city or a state or a country without serious thought and the fact that the most of us refuse to think causes us to be in the hands of a few who guide the destinies of the masses. Just the other day I was present when a man read the plans for a $189,000 sewage system for a town which could not pay an $18,000 debt due. It was like a man wearing diamonds and patched pants.'

"In speaking of the agricultural situation Mr. North who has sold farm chattels in over 8,000 barn lots in his career (and many of these sales were among the last sad rites of agricultural failures) was in a position to know the cause of much of the agricultural depression and spoke of the conditions as follows:

" 'Not long ago I was called to the home of a widow who was surrounded by her children lamenting her fate of having a $42,000 debt on a farm left to her free from incumbrance and wanted to know the cause. I told her the reason was that her husband in his life time put his gasoline in the haymow while her children put it in banks.

" 'The fine horses her husband raised and the high grade cattle on the place which I sold at the sale was the cause of keeping up the fertility of the farm by natural means and kept the farmer on his feet. Now friends you may not like my views but the greatest eulogy you can place on my little headstone after I am gone is here lies one who has the courage of his convictions.'

"Two bands, Stelvideo and Ansonia, furnished the concert from the stage erected upon the public square and following Colonel North's address the old fiddlers braved the chilly blasts to revive, 'Turkey in the Straw', 'The Devil's Dream,' 'Arkansas Traveler,' 'Fishers Hornpipe' and various other old time melodies. Owing to the inclement weather only three, John West, W.A. Wentworth and James Dempsy took part. After the crowd had yelled lustily for all, the judges finally decided Mr. Dempsy received a voice or two more than his competitors and was awarded the decision.

"An original poem on Palestine was read by Miss Viola Hoke following the contest and a history of the town was read by Mr. Royer. The potato race by five girls and five boys proved quite a diversion and the ball game at the close of the exercises kept the crowd to a late hour.

"The management had collected a rare display of antiques at the town hall which was crowded at all times during the day. Many of the farm implements as well as household articles over 100 years old and made by hand were on display.

"Lacy Saylor, master of ceremonies, kept the program running smoothly and the crowd from growing impatient. Homer Ross, who was manager of the colt show the day before which was considered the best show of its kind this year in either Ohio or Indiana and also was leader of the Sunday parade wished to thank the people for the hearty co-operation they had given the officials of the program."

Peace Declamation Contest - "The Peace Declamation contest for Palestine was divided into four groups this year. The contests were held at the Beech Grove Church of the Brethren, Palestine High School Building, Nashville United Brethren Church, and the Palestine Church of Christ. Medals were awarded to Naomi Ruth Rife at the Beech Grove contest, Iola Hoke in the High School contest, Mary Royer, Nashville Church and Elmer Price at the Church of Christ. The four winners chose 'The Revelations of War', as their speech. These winners will enter the county contest."
(Nov. 24, 1937 "Recorder")

School Emblems - "The school emblem for the past year was 'Pals'. The students wanted to change the emblem so Mr. Roberts took a vote to see which emblem received the most votes. 'Golden Eagles' was chosen for the emblem."
(1938 "Recorder")

WIN 17 OUT OF 22 GAMES, CHAMPIONS

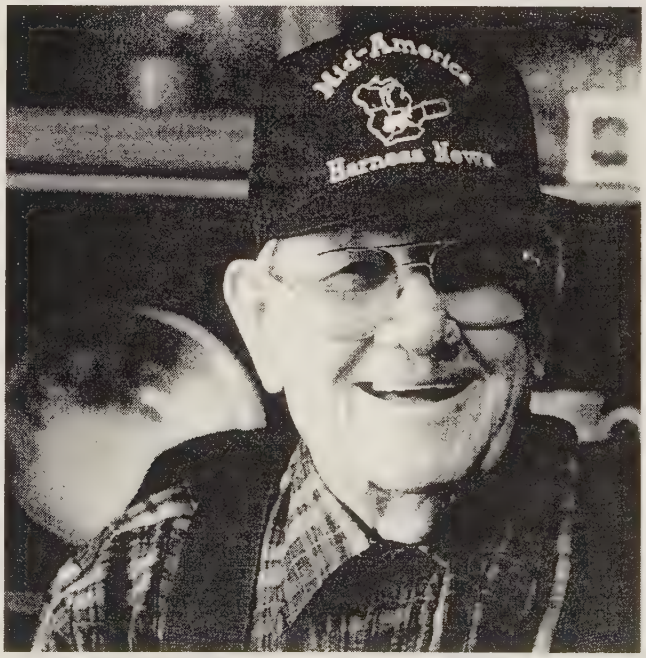
Palestine High School girls' basketball team, champions of Darke Co. 1929/30. First row, l to r: Carabell Miller, Martha Alice Siefman, Ruth Light, Beaulah Phillips, Pauline Rush. Back row: Mrs. Cassel, lady attendant; Mary Tejan, Louise Sellman, Mary Ellen Phillips, Beaulah Onkst, Louise Mills, and V.S. Cassel, coach.

Dime Lunches - Lunches cost 10¢ in 1938, and each day 4¢ extra would buy hot chocolate, hamburger sandwiches, weiner sandwiches, orange juice, milk, or fresh fruit. (1938 "Recorder")

1938 Baseball Team - Emil Rush catcher, Bob Parent pitcher, Rush Light 1st base, Bennie Cole 2nd base, Dick Wilt 3rd base, Louis Stephens short stop, Eugene Holland leftfield, Jim Clapp centerfield, Leslie Bollinger rightfield.

Rabbit Supper - "The time is now at hand when most boys and men may satisfy their longings to live something similar to our Pilgrim Fathers, we envy so much in the freedom to go into the woods in pursuit of food for their families. Perhaps our Pilgrim fathers did not consider hunting a sport and it may be they grew tired of wild meat, but in this civilized country of ours, we so seldom have the privilege that when we do it is a 'real treat'. The Palestine School is providing this opportunity for you, while it is a necessity with us. We, the school are pressed with a need for money in the general school fund and we are asking that you satisy your desire for a good rabbit supper and help us by attending our supper November 23." (Oct. 29, 1937 "Recorder")

Top Harness Driver - In 1959, Herman Ross was the top percentage driver in harness racing in the United States.



Herman Ross

July 20. 2000, Herman Ross is a 100 year resident of Palestine.

Fox Chase - 1894. This fox chase took place on the farm where Frank and Lois Nichols live on the Koons Road. The hunters would encircle 6 or 8 square miles then meet in one field. Perhaps the gent in the front center with dunce cap let the fox get by him?

Palestine Elevator

Second Cross Street

North Main Street

Earl Arnett, Adavier (Wilcox) Ross, Lorene and Ed Cromley, Carl Jefferis, Hazel and Chester Arnett, Harve and Lube and Harold Arnett, Helen Starbuck, George Baker and wife, Merle (Jefferis) Graham.

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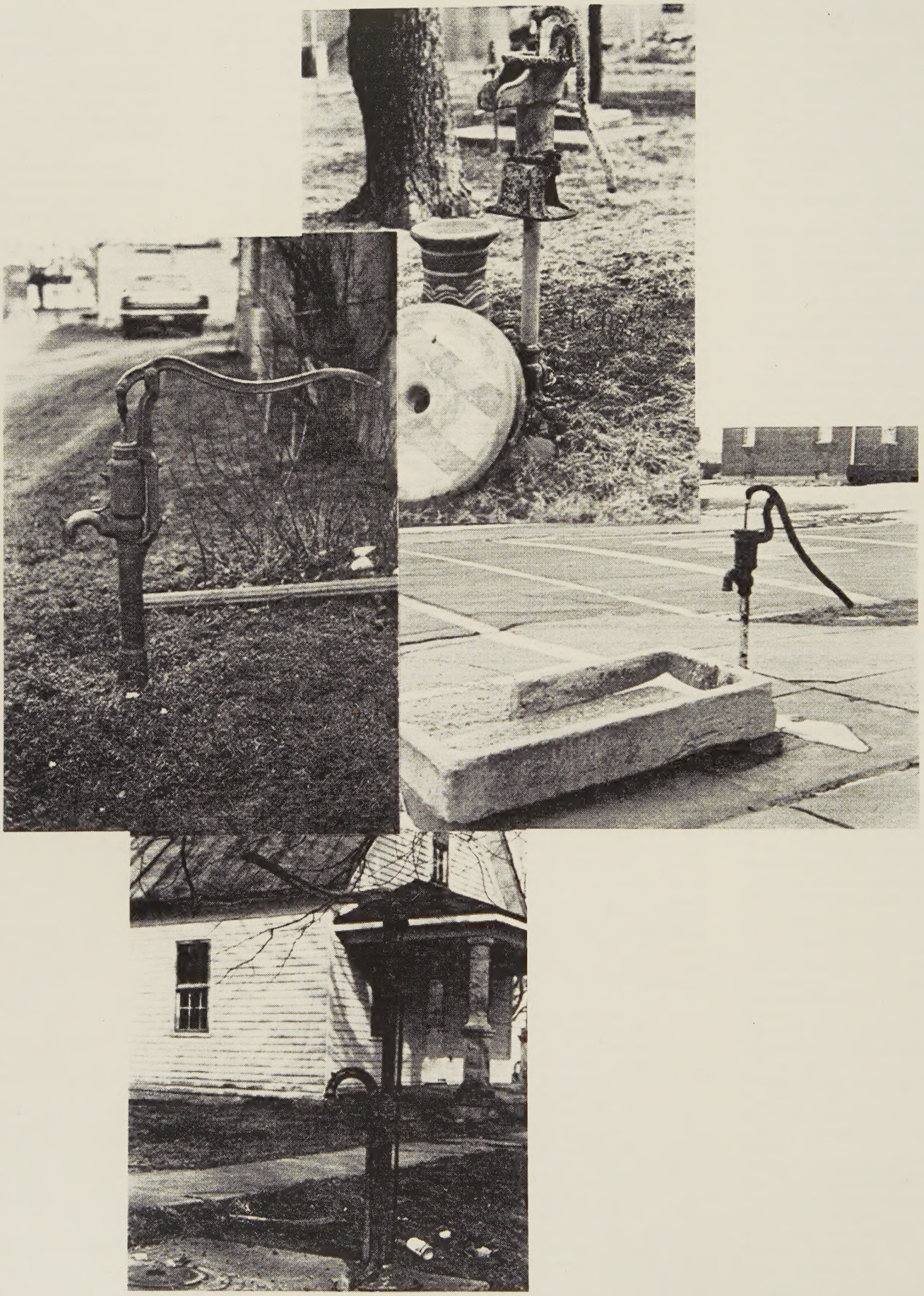
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